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THAT RED ACCORJUN.

Pore old thing! They've been a-writin' of
That they knowed back in the boyhoods
Of us which their lives has riz.
They wrote of mother's cookin',
They have wrote of father's chair,
They wrote about sweet apples
Growin' in th' orchard there,
They wrote about th' willer-trees a-
Bilin' by th' brook—
Why, all things they've wrote is numerous
Enough to make a book.
But I've gone an' plum neglected what
Is number best of all—
The accorjun that I played on just as
Night begin t' fall.

It was kivered with red paper marked
With figgers made o' gilt,
An' th' middle of th' bellus had a spot
Where ink was spilt.
It had designs made out o' filigree that
Showed th' brass in spots,
An' some stops that when ye moved 'em
Changed th' noise of it lots.
Two big bass notes that ye tootled made
Th' thing exactly right.
An' I use t' set an' play at "Nellie Gray"
For half th' night.

I was happier'n any monarch, with 'er
Siggin' on my knees,
While I drawed her out an' inward just a-
Makin' of her wheeze.

You know how—one thumb a-stickin
Through th' loop beside th' notes,
While yer left han' done th' basswork—
Makes a feller feel 'is oats
Just to reckollect his ideas as th' "do-ra-
me-faw-sole"
An' the "do-see-law-see-do-see's from th'
Bellus ust t' roll.
They was hummin' moths a-buzzin' in
Th' mornin'-glory vines—
You could hear 'em when I'd let up on
Them fascinatin' whines,
An' the neighbors use t' lean again their
Gates in' drink it in,
When my summer night's performance
On th' corjun would begin.

Since I've growed t' years o' manhood an'
I've learned about what's what,
I've be'n a'lowin I'm th' luckiest that ever,
Like as not.
I've been thinkin' with a shudder of what
Might been done t' me
If them neighbors had been wiser on th'
Science o' harmonee.
For them "Swanee River" concerts I ust
T' give o' nights
Was th' everlastin' limit, though accord-
In' to my lights,
An' I'm glad some pestered mortal didn't
Shoot my spirit home
When I played that red accorjun just as
Night begin t' come.

—Baltimore American.

WHALEBONE GATEWAY.

At Stromness, in the Orkney Islands, can be seen a strange looking gateway which is formed of the ribs of a very large whale. One rib is considerably

damaged, as the two present rather a weatherbeaten appearance. Stromness was at one time the favorite port of call when the Arctic whaling ships went northward. The little town flourished then with a goodly number of men, recruited, of course, from the islands. The whalebones forming this gateway are souvenirs of voyages, brought home by the men.

Love in Limericks.

There was a young fellow named Lel-
Chester
In love with a damsel named Helcester.
She was a coquette,
And when he called her "Puette,"
She giggled: "You're only a jeicester."

At this the young fellow named Leicester
Heaved sighs like a raging nor'welcester.
They melted her heart,
And with movements Delsarte
She yielded, and Leicester carelcester.
—Chicago Tribune.

Damage From Salt Dust.

The use of sea water for flushing streets and sewers in English towns has been abandoned because the salt dust damaged the goods of merchants, the paint on carriages and corroded plumbing.

STORY OF INDIAN MAGIC

Tricks That Defy Detection and Mystify All Who Behold Them.

The following story of Indian magic was told me by the person to whom it was told by the late Lord Lytton. I give it in my own words, for the excellent though humiliating reason that I have mislaid the manuscript. When in India, Lord Lytton often sought out conjurers, but never saw any but the usual feats, such as the mango tree trick and the basket trick. The method in each case is known, or at all events plausible explanations have been given by Mr. Maskelyne and other experts. On one occasion Lord Lytton liked something in the looks of the conjurer who was performing in an open space before his house. After the ordinary exhibition, his lordship asked the magician if he could not do something more out of the common way. The man said he would try, and asked for a ring, which Lord Lytton gave him. He then requested an officer to take in either hand a handful of seeds; one sort was sesame, the name of the other sort my informant did not know. Holding these seeds and having the ring between his finger and thumb, the officer was to go to a well in the corner of the compound. He was to dispose of the seeds in a certain way—I think on the low wall around the well, into the depths of which he was to throw the ring. All this was done, and then the magician asked Lord Lytton where he would like the ring to reappear. He answered "in his dispatch box," of which the key was attached to his watch chain, or at all events he had it with him on the spot. The dispatch box was brought out. Lord Lytton opened it, and there was the ring.

This trick would be easy if the British officer was a confederate of the juggler's, and if he possessed a duplicate key to the dispatch box. In that case he would not throw the ring into the well, but would take it into the house, open the box and insert the ring. But this explanation involves enormous improbabilities, while it is unlikely again, that the conjurer managed to insert a duplicate ring into the dispatch box beforehand. Lord Lytton then asked the juggler if he could repeat the trick. He answered in the affirmative, and a woman lent him another ring. Another officer took it, with the seeds, as before, and dropped the ring into the well. The countenance of the juggler altered in the pause which followed. Something, he said, had gone wrong, and he seemed agitated. Turning to the second officer, he said: "Did you arrange the seeds as I bade you?" "No," said the officer, "I thought that was all nonsense, and I threw them away." The juggler seemed horrified. "Do you think I do this by myself?" he said, packing up, he departed.

The well was carefully dragged, and at last the woman's ring was brought to the surface. That ring at least had been in the water. But had the first ring been as faithfully consigned to the depths? Experts will be of various opinions as to that, yet the hypothesis of confederacy and of duplicate key to the dispatch box is difficult.—Longman's Magazine.

UPRIGHT ROOSTER.

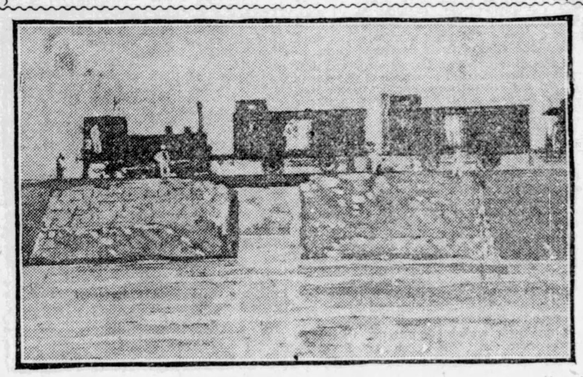
In addition to freaks in the fowl line, one of the oddest is a rooster which walks upright like a Luman being, as you can see by the picture.

In looking at it from behind it suggests a person with his hands clasped behind his back.

Being a buff Cochin, its plumage is

beautiful and it is the greatest pet of a Tolland county (Conn.) farm yard. It is very difficult for it to crow, and therefore it leaves out the last note. The tail feathers touch the ground, and as it walks along it holds its head high, as if it were proud of being a freak of nature.

First Railroad in China



The first railroad built in China, with most of its running gear, is still in regular use in the Celestial Empire. So crude an equipment for transportation can be seen in operation nowhere else in the world. The cars hold only eight passengers each, while the locomotive is so primitive an affair that it has difficulty in drawing even this load. A picture is here shown of this remarkable train passing over a bridge that is also a relic of the first railway construction in China.

MEN WHO DRAW MILLIONS A YEAR FROM LONDON

It is unfortunate for many of us that some provident and far-seeing ancestor of the eighteenth century did not invest two or three hundred pounds in buying a few acres of grazing land near Westminster or a slice of marsh land a little farther west in the neighborhood of Chelsea, for it would have been such an economical way of making a princely provision for his deserving progeny in the twentieth century.

When, in the seventeenth century, Sir John Spencer, lord mayor of London, bought for a song a few acres in the districts known as Clerkenwell and Canonbury he little dreamt that he was preparing a regal fortune for a noble family. Sir John had a charming daughter, who was wooed by a handsome but impecunious baron, Lord Northampton, on whom the city knight refused to smile as a potential son-in-law. But the young lover was determined to have his way in spite of parental frowns; and one day, so the story goes, he dressed himself as a baker's apprentice, called at the knight's house, and carried off the heiress in his basket on the top of his head. To this romantic incident the Lord Northampton of our day owes the enormous revenue that comes from his London property.

Viscount Portman owns less than 300 of London's 74,672 acres, but they are worth more than half a county elsewhere. His little territory is roughly bounded by Edgware Road, Baker Street and Marylebone Road, and could be traversed in any direction in a very few minutes, but it comprises some of the most valuable property in the west of London and has yielded many hundreds of thousands of pounds in premiums for renewal of leases alone.

The Duke of Bedford is lord of $1,000 acres; but the 18 acres which lie within the four-mile radius are probably more valuable than all the rest put together. One hundred of these rich acres lie around St. Pancras Station and in Bloomsbury, and the remaining eighteen acres are represented by Covent Garden. The duke, it is said, draws an annual income of £12,000 from the tolls levied on the fruit and vegetables that enter the market, in addition to an enormous sum from rents; and his total revenue from his London property is estimated in six figures.

The duke of Westminster has two estates in London, either of which yields a truly regal income. The Upper Grosvenor estate, which a couple of hundred years ago could have been bought for a few hundred pounds, includes Mayfair and such haunts of fashion and riches as Grosvenor and Berkeley Squares; while the Belgravia estate takes in much of the most valuable property between Hyde Park Corner and the Thames, with large sections of Pimlico and Westminster. Grovenor Place, and Buckingham Palace Road. From these two estates the duke is said to draw many hundreds of thousands of pounds a year.

The duke of Portland has a snug and very valuable little estate tucked away in the corner between Portland Place and Marylebone Road. In point of acres it is insignificant, but it produces in rents four times the entire official income of the British cabinet, if not, as has been stated, quite £500,000 a year.

Lord Salisbury owns much valuable land in and near the Strand and Leicester Square, including the sites of the Hotel Cecil and the Savoy theatre; the duke of Norfolk has a still richer mine in the district between Long Acre and the river, including most of the Strand; and Lord Ilchester is lord of Holland park and much adjoining property.

Camden Town is mostly the property of the marquis of Camden, Lord Cadogan owns lands in Chelsea—lands which were once an utterly uninhabitable morass—valued at over £1,000,000. Lord Battersea is the ground landlord of the district from which he derives his title, Lord Howard de Walden is lord of the Portland estates north of Oxford street, and Hackney is part of Lord Amherst's rich possessions.—Tit-Bits.

A CHECK FOR SEVEN CENTS

Mark Twain's story of the £1,000,000 note which nobody would cash finds a parallel on an almost infinitesimal scale in Kentucky this week. A Union veteran named Gibson, who had for years drawn a small pension, concluded some ten years ago that he was not getting his full deserts, and applied for an increase. In the course of time this was granted, and the first payment of $2.07 fell due. Of this, as might be expected, an even $2 went to the pension attorney, and the government's check which Gibson received was for a paltry seven cents. The amount was so absurd that he declared he would never cash it, and the slip of paper remained in his hands for eight years as a souvenir. At length, between pension days, Gibson found himself "broke" with a sick wife on his hands who demanded apples and would be satisfied with nothing else. Orchards from which he could purloin some were too far away, and with inward misgivings the veteran hunted up his pension check from its hiding place, and went forth into the marts of trade. The first grocer to whom he went was apprehensive lest the check should be outlawed and declined to take it, while the second, a better informed man, laughed aloud at the idea of giving seven cents' worth of apples on a check on the United States treasury which it would cost 15 cents merely to collect through a bank. Gibson went empty handed from store to store, until he found a grocer who was a bit of an antiquarian, and was willing to take the check as a curiosity. So Mrs. Gibson had her apples.—New York Evening Post.

Rustic house over spring 100 years old; water raised by old-fashioned well sweep.

BRAHMIN WAR GOD.

Bisha-Mon is the God of War of the Brahmins of India. His worship was introduced to Japan from Southern India

with Buddhism. The image sometimes possesses two, four or even six pairs of arms and legs. Bisha-Mon is held in especial reverence by the lower classes.

GARDEN NEEDLE PAINTING

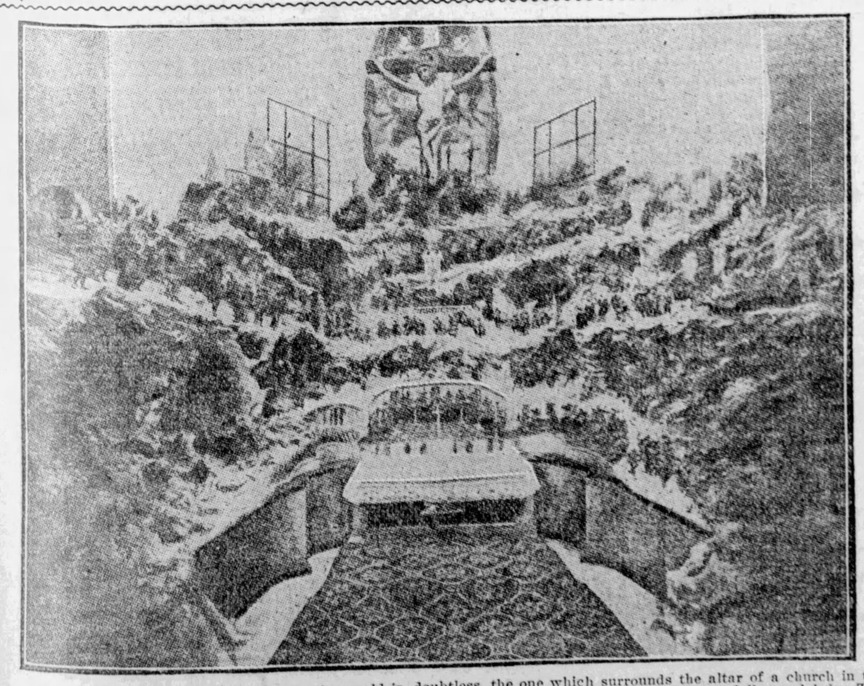
A new fashion in needlework is coming a good deal into favor. It is for the worker to reproduce in fine crewels on canvas some sketch or picture of her own or a friend's garden. The work is carried out on very fine single-thread canvas, with the finest of fine crewel wools, the stitch used being the old petit point.

The designs are first painted roughly on the canvas, and here a happy opportunity presents itself to the worker who can handle the paint brush as well as the needle, for the pictures may be original sketches or adaptations from finished paintings. The work itself is not by any means difficult, as it merely involves following out the coloring suggested in the rough painting; but great care must be taken to work perfectly evenly and to preserve the forms, while blending the colors softly and gradually. It is always better to carry out this kind of work in a frame rather than in the hand. Another way in which these garden pictures may be carried out, and which, less exquisitely minute, is easier to work and can be done in about a quarter of the time that it would take if executed in petit point. The canvas used is of coarse texture, somewhat resembling that of huckaback. The garden scene is roughly painted upon it, as for the smaller pictures. The details are then darned in with much coarser crewel wools than those used for the finer work, the entire picture being thus filled. When a strong touch of massed color is needed, satin stitch may be used. Most of the forms are outlined in hemstitch. For boldly decorative effect, or for a position in which it has to be looked at from a distance, this kind of garden picture is much to be commended; the first mentioned has, however, the characteristic charm of delicate needle-painting.

Smokeless Coal in Japan.

It has been necessary for the Japanese to import smokeless coal for the use of the fleet, but a deposit of smokeless coal, underlying about 1,500 acres, has lately been discovered in Hokkaido.

MOST ELABORATE ARTIFICIAL GROTTO.



The most elaborate artificial grotto in the world is, doubtless, the one which surrounds the altar of a church in the south of France. Upward of a thousand different figures are comprised in the decoration, all carefully modeled. The grotto represents the Crucifixion, and the scenes leading up to it are worked out with great fidelity. The photograph shown herewith gives a general view of the entire grotto. Each figure of the hundreds represented repays careful examination.

The Whip Hand

A Tale of the Pine Country

By Samuel Merwin

Author of "The Road to Frontenac." Joint author of "Calumet K."

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CHAPTER III—(Continued.)

Halloran nodded and smiled a little. "I know," he said. "We're all of us likely to fall down now and then. I don't known as I should have done just that, though. A man can't afford to gamble unless he can afford to lose; and there aren't many such men. I'm not sure there are any." He smiled again—he knew just how George felt, just about what he was thinking behind that clouded face. "But now the question is, how are we going to fix you up again? You can't stay here. How much did you lose?"

Again it was Jimmie that answered, "Three fifty."

Halloran thought for a moment, doing some sums in his head; then he took a purse from his pocket and counted out the money.

"Now, George," he said, "this is a loan. I know you're square, and I'm willing to take your word for it. There is no hurry; but some day, when you feel you can, you may pay it back. We needn't either of us say anything about it." George's expression was charging every moment; but he took the money. "Suppose we go back to the house now, George. You will find your mother and sister mighty glad to see you. And Miss Davis is waiting at the Settlement to hear about you. She has worried a good deal. Then Monday we will see if we can't get the factory to give you another trial."

George's armor was not proof against such an attack as this. He got up, put the money in his pocket, and lighted Halloran and Jimmie along the passage with his candle; then he snuffed it out and put it in his pocket, threw the bottle into the river and followed the two others up the stairway to the street.

CHAPTER IV—THE END OF THE BEGINNING.

Bending over a book sat Halloran, both elbows on the table, the fingers of both hands run through his hair. The book lay open, and spread out on the leaves was a note from Miss Davies; in part this ran as follows:

". . . . . George is to have another trial at the box-factory. They seem willing to be kind to him, but Mr. —— says emphatically that he will not be taken back a second time. But I have confidence in him, particularly in your influence. . . . .

"I will tell you all about it when you next come up to the house. I am more and more grateful than you know—indeed, we all are—for your . . ."

Halloran had made a discovery. Had he been given self-scrutiny it would have come earlier; and it would then have been a little easier to face. But this way of thinking would not help him now; it had not come earlier, it was difficult, and the question lay before him: should he make that next visit to the house or not?

He glanced up at his nickel alarm-clock and saw that it was time to go on watch; so he put on his sweater and oilskins and sou'wester, blew out his lamp and walked across the Sheridan road to the station.

It was nearly four years since he had taken care of the Davies's furnace and slept in their barn. That had been in his days of "subbing" for a crew position, and he had not been a boy even then; he had entered college at twenty-two. Since then, thanks to his salary as a surfman in the pay of the Treasury Department, he had got along rather better; he was no longer the traditional poor student. He was not ashamed of his struggles, nor especially proud of them; he was inclined to think that struggling is not in itself particularly commendable; that it is success that counts. He knew that Mrs. Davies and her daughter had followed his work with interest, and he was grateful for it. "Grateful"—there was the word that he stuck at. For, after all, had there not been from the start an element of patronage in their kindness to him? "Kindness!"—another word that hurt.

Number Six was "punching" the watchman's clock that always hung just within the station door.

"Hal'o," he said to Halloran.

"Hallo."

Wet night."

"Yes, rather."

"Better keep an eye on that light off the long pier. She's running in pretty close, I think."

"All right: good-night."

Number Six disappeared in the dark of the road, bound for bed; and Halloran pulled his sweater up around his neck and fell to pacing the veranda. The surf was booming on the beach below; the rain was cutting in toward the land. Out beyond the breakers were lights—a line of them along the horizon.

The time had come to look ahead. In another six months his college course would be completed; his playtime would be over; realities lay beyond—downright realities that surround a man, that show clear through him, that bear him down and under unless he be made of stronger stuff than they. Wits were needed, and judgment; the determination that goes against things, not with them. There would be no making up of cuts, out there in the world, no special examinations; a man must look higher than the faculty there. Mistakes would be hard to rectify, perhaps could not be rectified, where a man was already nearer thirty than twenty. He decided not to make that next call.

CHAPTER V—A DECISION TO FIGHT.

The little city of Wauchung straggled over and between and almost burrowed under a chain of sand-hills—shining yellow hills with tops entirely bald save for a spear of rank grass here and there or a dwarfed pine. Outside the mouth of the river was Lake Michigan; behind the little city were the pine forests of the Lower Peninsula. And the one interesting object of this whole region was a man—for houses and shops were commonplace, streets were ill-paved, the railroad was wanting in energy and capital, the inhabitants were mostly leveled down to the colorless monotony of the sand-hills—a man named Martin L. Higginson.

There was one imposing building of granite and red bricks on the business street—a glance showed the name of Higginson over the entrance. Two large mills stood by the river, surrounded by piles of lumber on the land, fronted by rafts of logs in the water, sending out their droning hum all day long (and frequently all night long); inside, men were bustling and pushing in the effort to keep up with the drive of work outside, the long runways were active with men and with moving lumber—and on each of the mills was the name Higginson. Two steamers lay at the Higginson wharves—lake carriers, both, of the Higginson line. A logging railroad ran back some twenty miles into the forest; it ran over Higginson land to Higginson land, to bring what logs the little river could not bring—for the Higginson property extended far to the north, south, and eastward. There was, in fact, one rich man in the little city—one man who had done what he could to keep the railroad busy, to keep the harbor dredged, to keep the streets in better condition, to make Wauchung a real city, awake, energetic, proud—one man who represented Wauchung to the outside world: Mr. Higginson.

An elderly gentleman he was, a man who had passed the fighting age, who would have stopped to rest any time these last six or eight years if the business had permitted it; but it had stood until recently that the one man in Wauchung who did not take his vacation every year was Mr. Higginson. As it often falls out, however, one of his severest misfortunes had brought its blessing. For five years and more he had looked for a man, for the man, whom he could trust to take up the burden that was beginning to weigh so heavily; and for five years he had failed. He liked young Crosman, the head clerk in the office; but Crosman, though welcome enough at the house as Mamie Higginson's regular caller, hardly showed administrative qualities—his limitations were marked. And so the search had gone on: he had tried them, young men and middle-aged men—and he had found that all of them wanted money, and none of them wanted work. And what he had to offer was work, little else—hard work, work for head and hands, much thinking of the business, little thinking of self; the spirit that would live for the business, that would take its pride in the quality of the Higginson work, that would strive, as he had striven, to make the name of Higginson a synonym for honest work, work done on time, work done a little better than the contract demanded. Where could he find a man like this?

And then after five years, through a shipwreck of all occurrences, he had found him. He knew him at once, as he had thought he should. Looking down from the heights of character and accomplishments, on a world of little persons, foolish persons, earnest, weak persons, dishonest persons, pompous, empty persons—all the sorts that go to make up a man's world, and nearly all that he is likely to see, unfortunately, from the heights—looking out and down and all about, he had seen a young man's head and shoulders climbing up above the rabble. The young man had not yet climbed very high; but he was climbing, and that was enough. So Mr. Higginson had come to think more lightly of the rheumatism, the failing eyes, the many signs of age that had been brought sharply to his notice by that shock and exposure on the west coast.

At the time of this chapter, Mr. Higginson and Halloran were seated in the office—Halloran before his desk, Mr. Higginson beside it—looking at a typewritten letter or statement. Twenty-four hours earlier Mr. William H. Babcock had endeavoured to buy the Wauchung mills in the interest of Mr. Bigelow. It seemed that Mr. Bigelow was about to enter the lumber business. His genius for combination, for exploitation, was to be given a new direction. Kentucky Coal, New Freighters, Northwest Chicago, all his various interests were prospering, thanks to the name of Bigelow, and now the lumber business was to be vitalized, to be vivified. Just how it was to be done, or what was to be done, was not known; that secret was kept close in the Bigelow office. Each newspaper published its own version, to be believed or disbelieved at the discretion of the reader. All Mr. Higginson knew was that the Bigelow firm could never buy him out, that he had not spent his years in building up a business for the benefit of Mr. Bigelow. The business was his life, and he meant to keep it for himself and his family and his legitimate successors. So the first refusal had been a simple matter—a plain, emphatic no had sufficed.

Then for a time there had been silence; until one day Halloran learned that the Pewaukee Lumber Company, twenty-odd miles up the shore, had succumbed to the blandishments of the low-voiced Mr. Babcock, and had sold out mills, standing timber and all. It had not been a prosperous company, thanks to the shiftless management of the children of the original owner; but there was no reason why it should not do well in good hands. There was no question now that, whatever he meant to do next, Mr. Bigelow had a footing in the lumber trade, and Halloran had been watching him closely.

The document on the desk was a statement of the "understanding" or secret agreement that was henceforth to be law among the lumber producers of Lake Michigan. It had been presented and accompanied with much confidential talk from Mr. Babcock—all tending to show that the lumbermen, with the sole exception of Mr. Higginson, were already united to forward this agreement, that the business would be organized as never before, that great economies would be brought about in the carrying side of the trade, that the strain of competition would be avoided, that prices would be maintained at a somewhat higher figure (a main point, this) under penalty of fines, that—much more low talk and friendly disinterested confidences. For their interests were identical, said Mr. Babcock; and there was room for them all. Efficiency was the keyword—efficiency, productiveness, economy, identity of interests, good prices. And lastly there had been friendly, almost deferential intimations that G. Hyde Bigelow & Company held the key to the situation, that the combination was already a fact, and that a firm which might desire to stay out must take the consequences.

Simplified, the whole matter came to this: Within the combination, prosperity in plenty, but always subject to the guiding judgment of G. Hyde Bigelow, hence a certain loss of identity and of control of self-respecting heads of companies; without the combination a fight to a finish against the combined power and momentum of Bigelow & Company, and the "Lumber Trust." Just how great was this momentum no one exactly knew; but Bigelow was a magic name, no doubt of it.

"You have gone over it, have you, Mr. Halloran?" said Mr. Higginson.

His voice was disturbed and his expression showed worry and trouble. For a year Mr. Higginson had been changing very slightly but none the less perceptibly to one as close to him, day after day, as Halloran was. Until he had assured himself that his assistant was able to take up the burden, he had kept up; but after that moment he had seemed, in a measure, to let go. On routine matters he was as strong as ever, but his mind refused to work automatically through new problems; there were sometimes gaps in his reasoning that he found it difficult to bridge over, and this worried him. So it had come about that a tacit agreement existed between the older and the younger, that in questions where vigor was needed, of body or mind, the younger man should take the lead; and Mr. Higginson mildly deceived himself by giving more attention than formerly to routine matters and trivial details. It was Halloran, therefore, who had spent the better part of a night thinking out this question, whether to yield or fight. And it was Mr. Higginson, naturally enough, who had put the question.

"You have gone over it, have you, Mr. Halloran?"

"Yes. The Bigelow part of it is what I like best. I am not sure that he is just the man you would want to stand responsible for this business, and therefore he certainly is not the man to take charge of all the companies together—and that is pretty nearly what this paper means."

"Why do you think that?"

"Well, he isn't solid. He's been lucky, and just now he's on the top of the wave. But his interests and investments are spread out so wide that a run of bad luck might upset him. I don't know that it would, but it might. And then I have seen a little of him."

"You know him personally?"

"Yes. I cut his grass for two summers in Evanston, and did odd jobs for him."

Mr. Higginson pondered, and Halloran went on: "On the other hand, his resources are large, and if we decide to stand out it may mean a long, hard fight. It might be harder than we think."

Mr. Higginson was still thinking hard, forcing his mind to take up one phase of the question after another; and the worried expression, so frequently on his face nowadays, was more noticeable than ever. Finally he said:

"Then you are in favor of declining to join the combination?"

This was the direct question that Halloran had partly foreseen. He hesitated, marking at random with a pencil while his thoughts came fast. At this moment he saw more clearly than he had seen at any time during the night what a refusal would mean. Wealthy as Mr. Higginson was, his wealth lay in the lumber lands, the logging railroad, in the mills and the steamers, and in Wauchung property; to a certain extent the whole town of Wauchung had grown up around Mr. Higginson and was directly or indirectly dependent upon him; and all these interests, hanging as they did on the lumber business, must suffer when this business was attacked. But he caught himself—if he ran on into this way of thinking he was lost.

"Yes," he replied; "I think we had better decline."

Mr. Higginson arose.

"I will leave the letter to you," he said; and then went out with a face that seemed to express downright dread. Honest old gentleman, he had thought to take a rest; and instead he found himself facing the hardest fight of his career.

Halloran took up his pen and made the attitude of Higginson & Company plain in three lines.

CHAPTER VI—UNDER WAY.

In the parlor of the Higginson home, one evening shortly after the incident of the last chapter, sat Mrs. Higginson and her daughter, with expresions hardly significant of an intense joy in life. In the library, talking earnestly behind closed dors, were Mr. Higginson and Halloran.

"Well, Mr. Halloran, what is it?" had begun the head of the firm.

"The fight is on. I got the first word of it today."

Mr. Higginson bowed slightly and waited.

"Bigelow has cut the price down below cost."

It took a moment for the older man to grasp the meaning of this.

"Yes; it's going to be a question of endurance."

"But we have some large orders on hand. They will keep us busy for awhile. How does the Carroll & Condit lumber stand?"

"It's about half cut out."

"You can go ahead with it, then, for this week. And after that the Michigan City contract will keep us busy for awhile."

"The Carroll & Condit business is what brought me here tonight. Here is a letter from them." Halloran laid it on the table. "They offer us a chance to meet the new price before they place their order elsewhere."

Gradually the meaning of Halloran's words had been sinking into Mr. Higginson's mind; the relations of cause and effect had been clearing before him. He looked the letter over silently, twice, three times.

"I—I can hardly believe this——" He saw that this was useless talk and he stopped. It had been a verbal order from Carroll, a man whom he had reason to hold as the soul of honor; the price had been stated and agreed to, precisely as for twenty years back; everything had been satisfactory. Good Mr. Higginson had been the victim of a delusion. After half a century of struggle he had allowed himself to believe that the fight was about over, that his personal achievement meant something; that he could stand securely on the heights. He had forgotten that Business is Business, that Time is Money and Money Talks; he had forgotten that the glorious old world was spinning along, as heedless as ever, after the ever-receding glitter, and that there could be no stopping until the last great stop should be reached.

"From what I can gather," said Halloran, "they mean to fight us all along the line. The Michigan City contract, I think, is good. We have it down in black and white, and we can make the delivery in our own steamers; but we should have to use the railroads for most of our other orders, and I'm afraid we can't do it." He disliked this hammering one trouble after another into the old gentleman's aching head, but it had to be done. "I'm quite sure that Bigelow has influence with the railroads, and of course he will use it."

Mr. Higginson was thinking—thinking.

"How much—" he was still thinking, desperately raking his facts together and facing what seemed like chaos—"how much is this going to cost us, Mr. Halloran?"

Halloran shook his head.

"It's too early to tell. He must show his hand before we can plan our game. He's beginning now, and before he gets through, by ——, we'll smash him. We'll make him feel like a whipped coach-dog every time he passes under a lumber pile." Halloran was getting so excited he had to get up and pace the carpet. "I know the man; I know his meanness and his vanity. I've worked for him, and I've seen him off his guard, and I know his insolence. Before we get through with him he'll wish he had gone into a bucket-shop, where he belongs, and stayed there, the —— old bloated frog of a tin-horn gambler. Let him wreck his Kentucky Coal and his New Freighters all he pleases, but he'll get a bellyfull if he tries to wreck the lumber business."

He stopped short, looked around at the dark, olive-tinted walls, at the stately row of books in their morocco and calf and yellow and red and gold; looked at the rich carpet and the restful chairs and the soft light of the polished student-lamp; looked last at Mr. Higginson—and felt a cold sweat breaking out all over his body. What had he said?

Somewhere in Halloran's make-up, deep-hidden beneath the laborious years of work and study, lay a well, a spouting, roaring geyser of profanity. It had come into the world with him; it had been richly fed during his rough, knock-about boyhood; and now, in spite of the weights he had put on it, a year or two of Michigan lumbermen had been enough to prime it.

Mr. Higginson was still thinking—thinking. The facts were before him now; at last he had penetrated to them and brought them together. And he was facing them—meeting them squarely without flinching. Quietly he sat, one elbow on the green-topped table, his hand shading his eyes; and the lamplight fell gently on his head. He was facing the question of himself, of his ability to conduct his own business; and another question, granting that he was unable, whether he could, in his best judgment, place everything he had in the world—his business, his family, himself—in the hands of this man and bid him Godspeed in his work. So he sat thinking—thinking; and Halloran, a little abashed, but angry still, dropped into a chair and waited. At last the old gentleman spoke—in a low, changed voice.

"Mr. Halloran, I have not been well lately; and I think it best—to tell you that—for the present the business is in your hands. I will stay here and advise with you, but—I do not wish you to feel hampered by my presence in carrying on this fight. I am laying a heavy responsibility on you—but I think—I trust you will be equal to it."

Mr. Higginson's part of the fight was over; and he had won.

Mrs. Higginson was playing clock at the centretable. She was a wiry little woman, capable of great exertion and showing remarkable endurance when set on some purpose, such as a shopping trip to Chicago; but suffering at other times from languor and low spirits, and in constant need of medical attendance.

She had never been able to understand why "Mr. H." should insist on burying himself in the lumber business, when he was plenty rich enough to sell out and take her and her daughter forth from the slumberous quiet of Wauchung into the stir of the world. Such stupidity, such meanness of ideals (to pass over the injustice to herself—she was nothing; she didn't count) was out of her ken. And in the second place, her heart had been set for three seasons on a trip to Hot Springs; and even if Mr. H.'s plainness of character were to hold his interests in Wauchung in spite of her known desires, he certainly owed it to her to give her an outing for a few months. She had borne a great deal for him—but never mind. Doctor Brown would sympathize with her, anyway—would bring her medicine every day if she were but so much as to drop a hint.

Mamie had been trying to read a novel; but being herself the meek centre of a tremendous little drama, she found it difficult to focus her attention.

"Ma," she said, after a time, "don't you think pa looks a little run down?" This was a euphemism; there was no question that Mr. Higginson was looking very bad indeed.

"A little, perhaps," replied her mother. At that moment, the three-o'clock pile being prematurely completed, she gave up "Clock" in disgust and shuffled her cards for the thirteen game.

Presently she said, "My head has ached, hard all day."

This was encouraging. Mamie took up her book again; but not for long.

"Do you suppose he is worrying about the business, ma? He and Mr. Halloran are working almost every night now."

"I suppose so," Mrs. Higginson replied. "It would have been better for him if he had retired. Your father has no time to think of us, my dear."

Mamie felt some injustice in this and would have dropped the subject had not her mother, roused to it, pushed on.

"He says himself that Mr. Halloran has shown himself able to run the business, and yet he will not go away even for a week. I think if we could only get him off for a short time he would want to stay, once he had made up his mind to it." At this moment the library door opened and the two men could be heard in the hall. Mrs. Higginson's face bright-

"DENIOGRAPHIST" WRITES WITH HIS TEETH.

A newspaper man in Connecticut who writes with his teeth is proving that pluck carries the day in spite of the most adverse circumstances. Mr. Louis Schuelke, of Banker Hill, Waterbury, has never had the use of his arms or hands, so he taught his teeth to grasp and to hold, and now, with pen or brush adjusted firmly in those ivory clamps, he draws, paints and writes to his heart's content. The pictures he produces are of considerable merit, and the Waterbury Republican has him on its books as correspondent.

Mr. Schuelke uses penholders of various shapes, tapering somewhat toward the pen end, and slightly flattened where it enters the mouth; another is bent in the middle, allowing the pen to move on the paper at a comfortable angle; still another has a cross bar at the end for a mouthpiece so as to admit of a firm grip by the teeth and lips. He writes with surprising rapidity, the pen being driven by quick, firm motions of the head. His usual writing could not be distinguished from a plain round hand.

Thousands of Women Have Kidney Trouble and Never Suspect It.

Almost every one, from personal experience, knows that the effects of any kind of severe physical strain are felt, first of all, in the small of the back—in other words, in those Vital Organs, the Kidneys. This is as true in the case of the very powerful as it is with one of less strength, and it is especially true whenever the kidneys are weak or out of order.

The Great Kidney Remedy Swamp-Root, strengthens the kidneys and through them helps all the other organs.

WOMEN suffer untold misery because the nature of their disease is not always correctly understood; in many cases when doctoring, they are led to believe that womb trouble or female weakness of some sort is responsible for their ills, when in fact disordered kidneys are the chief cause of their distressing troubles. Perhaps you suffer almost continually with pain in the back, bearing-down feelings, headache and utter exhaustion.

Didn't Know I Had Kidney Trouble

I had tried so many remedies without their having benefited me that I was about

discouraged, but in a few days after taking your wonderful Swamp-Root I began to feel better.

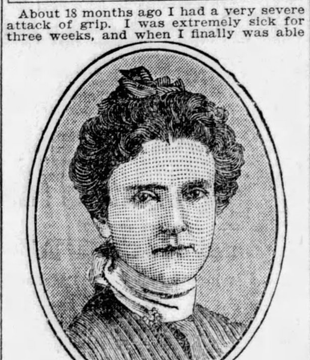
I was out of health and run down generally; had no appetite, was dizzy and suffered with headache most of the time. I did not know that my kidneys were the cause of my trouble, but somehow felt they might be, and I began taking Swamp-Root, as above stated. There is such a pleasant taste to Swamp-Root, and it goes right to the spot and drives disease out of the system. It has cured me, making me stronger and better in every way, and I cheerfully recommend it to all sufferers. Gratefully yours,

MRS. A. L. WALKER,
46 West Linden St., Atlanta, Ga.

YOUR poor health makes you nervous, irritable and at times despondent; but thousands of just such suffering or broken-down women are being restored to health and strength every day by the use of that wonderful discovery, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, the great kidney, liver and bladder remedy.

Today I Am in Splendid Health

About 18 months ago I had a very severe attack of grip. I was extremely sick for three weeks, and when I finally was able



to leave my bed I was left with excruciating pains in my back, which convinced me that I had a severe kidney trouble. My physical condition was such that I had no strength and was all run down.

My sister, Mrs. C. E. Littlefield, of Lynn, advised me to give Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root a trial.

I procured a bottle, and inside of three days commenced to get relief. I followed up that bottle with another, and at the completion of this one found I was completely cured. My strength returned and today I am as well as ever.

My business is that of canvasser. I am on my feet a great deal of the time, and have to use much energy in getting around. My cure is therefore all the more remarkable, and is exceedingly gratifying to me. Swamp-Root is pleasant to take.

Sincerely yours,
MRS. H. N. WHEELER,
29 Prospect St., Lynn, Mass.

NOT only does Swamp-Root bring new life and activity to the kidneys, the cause of the trouble, but by strengthening the kidneys it acts as a general tonic and food for the entire constitution.

Swamp-Root a Blessing To Women

My kidneys and bladder gave me great trouble for over two months and I suffer-

ed untold misery. I became weak, emaciated and very much run down. I had great difficulty in retaining my urine, and was obliged to pass water very often night and day. After I had used a sample bottle of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, sent me on my request, I experienced relief and I immediately bought of my druggist two large bottles and continued taking it regularly. I am pleased to say that Swamp-Root cured me entirely. I can now stand on my feet all day without any bad symptoms whatever. Swamp-Root has proved a blessing to me.

Gratefully yours,

MRS. E. AUSTIN,
19 Nassau St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

THE MILD and extraordinary effect of the world-famous kidney and bladder remedy, Swamp-Root, is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distresing cases. A trial will convince anyone—and you may have a sample bottle sent free by mail.

In taking Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root you afford natural help to Nature, for Swamp-Root is the most perfect healer and gentle aid to the kidneys that has ever been discovered. Don't make any mistake, but remember the name, Swamp-Root, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and the address, Binghamton, N. Y., on every bottle.

To Prove What SWAMP-ROOT, the Great Kidney, Liver and Bladder Remedy, Will Do for YOU, Every Reader of the "Blade" May Have a Sample Bottle Sent Free by Mail.

EDITORIAL NOTICE—No matter how many doctors you have tried—no matter haw much money you may have spent on other medicines, you really owe it to yourself, and to your family, to at least give Swamp-Root a trial. Its strongest friends today are those who had almost given up hope of ever becoming well again. You may have a sample bottle of this wonderful discovery, Swamp-Root, sent absolutely free by mail, also a book telling all about Swamp-Root, and containing many of the thousands upon thousands of testimonial letters received from men and women who owe their good health, in fact their very lives, to its wonderful curative properties. In writing to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., be sure to say that you read this generous offer in The Toledo Weekly Blade. If you are already convinced that Swamp-Root is what you need, you can purchase the regular fifty-cent and one dollar size bottles at the drug stores everywhere.

IN A HAPPY WORLD.

ELIZABETH AYRES.

You may say what you please to the contrary, happiness and poverty can go hand in hand when good health and unquenchable spirits bear them company. There was a man once who proved the truth of this. He had been poor all of his days, and he had been happier than many who passed him in their carriages and counted their dollars by the thousand.

His first name, William, was always dwarfed to Billy. No one thought of calling him anything else. He was that kind of a man. "Hello, Billy," or "How are you, Billy?" was the way he was always greeted. When he answered, you could scarcely see the blue twinkle of his eyes, they hid themselves so completely in the wrinkles creased by his smile. He had been smiling or laughing most of the time since he had been born.

Mirth will bring wrinkles almost as soon as gloom or sorrow, but the smile-wrinkles are entirely different, and nobody cares if they do have them, at least, not people like Billy.

He never explained why he chose the spot he did for his place of business. He spoke of it as a "good stand," and he had kept to it for many years. It was on a corner that in the winter was the bleakest, most red-nosed, goose-skinned place in the city, and in the summer was just as much the other extreme. Billy cared not a whit for the weather. During the summer he could stay in the shade and watch his shop when trade was dull. In the winter—well, you will have to be told what sort of a shop he had, to understand how he managed in the winter.

It was not much larger than a good-sized dry goods box, and just high enough to permit Billy to stand erect when he was inside, and as he was not a tall man, you may know it was not a sky-scraper. The box was longer than it was wide, with a door at one end and a very small gasoline stove at the other. Across the front was a counter with a long window above it, which could be opened and closed like a lid. One section of the window had a slide in it through which Billy could wait on his customers.

When it was winter he shut himself in and fed his stove with fuel until it creaked and rocked with the heat, and drove Billy out in the air to get cool. Then as soon as he was in the street, the wind would bounce around the corner and buffet and hustle him and tear through his thin clothing till it had him shivering and running up and down the sidewalk, beating his chest with his fists as if to punish himself for being chilly. The consequences were Billy almost always had a cold in his head that kept his nose red, even when he was warm. He did not worry about that any more than he did about the weather.

Most of Billy's patrons were newsboys. He always had fruit and a little candy, but his specialty was crisp waffles. He cooked them himself on his stove and sprinkled them with an amount of sugar which was ruinous if his profits had been taken into consideration.

His summer staple was ice cream, served on squares of brown paper. Spoons were not included, but none of Billy's customers objected to that because he gave more ice cream for a penny than any one else in the city.

Losing his wife was his one great sorrow. It was a pity she could not have stayed in the world. She was just another such joyous one as Billy, but she went away when their child was a little girl, leaving Billy to be both father and mother.

The two had been more like children together than father and daughter. They were never separated until it came time for Molly to go to school, and even then they were apart during school hours only. When Molly was old enough she obtained employment, though she had no thought but that her father was perfect, and not at fault because he could not earn more money.

Every day she went to his stand at noon where they ate their luncheon, and at night, when their work was done, she went to his stand again and helped him to "close up the shop," so they might walk home together. There was a certain young man named John who threatened to become a member of the family, and John, in his way, was of the same fibre as Molly and her father.

It is the time of year to tell a Christmas story, and so far as I know, nothing can make a happier one than to describe a Christmas that came to Billy and Molly, but for that matter, they always managed to have merry holidays; they were that kind of people.

Previous to this particular Christmas, for a year or more, Billy had been saving money so he might give Molly a new gown for her Christmas present. He wanted her to buy it herself as it was to be ready made and of the kind he had seen the gorgeous wax ladies in the shop windows wearing. He had become an authority on fashions, having surreptitiously studied these same stylish ladies whenever opportunity afforded. He admired them greatly, but he was certain Molly could eclipse the stolid beauties when she was dressed in a like manner.

He kept his secret until the day before Christmas, and then, having changed his hoard of nickels and dimes for a bill on which the figure "20" indicated its value, he gave the money to Molly and told her for what it was intended.

His eyes disappeared from sight entirely when he was revealing the surprise, and his happiness was only equaled by Molly's. "Get it today, Molly," he urged, "so we can enjoy it tomorrow."

This was early in the morning before they had left their home.

Molly did not come to the stand at noon. She was supposed to be shopping. In the afternoon Billy began to watch for her, hours before it was time for her coming. Business was lively, but it was difficult for him to fix his mind on waffles. Whenever he could, he trotted up and down the sidewalk in front of his shop, and peered around the corner, and looked up the street, and looked down the street for the dearest girl in the world who should be wearing his Christmas present. This night of all others Molly was late.

Her father thought he saw her coming a dozen times, and the ones he took for Molly always turned out to be some one else. Suppose she was killed or stolen! He worked himself into a fever of worry and grew pale with fear of what might have happened. When he almost had her dead and buried, with himself weeping over her grave, Molly turned the corner.

Such a pretty, wholesome Molly, with dark eyes that were beautiful and true; young, happy eyes, reflecting hope so vigorous, bright and fresh.

"Merry Christmas, father," she cried, before he had seen her.

They hurried together and clasped each other's hands.

"Where's the new dress, Molly?" was Billy's first question.

"I didn't buy it," she answered, trying to appear sad and failing completely.

"Wasn't there money enough?"

There was an ocean of disappointment in her father's voice, and the words came out with a tremble.

"Yes, yes, father," she said quickly; "more than enough. Now father," she coaxed, "be a good boy, don't worry."

There was no one near at the moment, and her arms flew around his neck, though if all the world had seen, it would not have made any difference.

Billy's eyes got lost again in the smile-wrinkles while he listened to what she was saying. And this was what had happened.

Molly's employer, being a warm-hearted, appreciative woman, had given the girl a tailored suit for a Christmas present. As soon as she was free, Molly carried out a cherished plan of her own and bought a thick overcoat for her father.

"Why, Molly," Billy protested, "what does a great, strong hulk of a man like me want of an overcoat?"

He tried to look big and burly, but while he spoke he shivered under the sting of the wind that swept down the street and struck him icily.

Molly caressed his worn sleeve with a loving hand. "I guess you won't be too warm in an overcoat, father," she said, adding shyly, "John's 'round the corner waiting to be called. He carried the coat for me."

Someway, Molly always looked shy and blushed when she mentioned John.

"Bless my heart!" exclaimed Billy, pretending to bluster. "Why doesn't that John come out and show himself. Why is he hiding away with my coat? Come here, young man," he commanded sternly.

John appeared from his hiding place and proved himself to be a husky, broad-shouldered fellow, smiling so generously that he seemed to possess a surprising number of strong, white teeth.

"My coat, John," Billy directed in a grand manner.

They put it on him, there under the brilliant stars, sparkling in the blue above the glow from the electric lamps. There never was such a coat before, they decided. Billy went on dress parade before John and Molly, and they viewed him going and coming. No, there never was such a coat before, and seldom so happy a man inside of one.

"Well," declared Billy, "you never know how much you can enjoy a thing until you get it; but where's your dress, Molly?" he questioned anxiously.

"You'll see it tomorrow, don't worry, father dear," she told him.

They were reckless that Christmas eve and closed the shop earlier than usual without regard to possible customers.

"There's bacon and eggs for supper tonight," Billy announced, "it seems as if I could smell 'em frying. Let's hurry home," he proposed, sniffing the air hungrily.

Away they went, the three together, with Billy in the middle, stepping so buoyantly you would have known they were light-hearted even if you could not have seen their faces.

Down the street swung a squad from the Salvation Army, with the drummer in the lead, pounding his drum vigorously and bending back so far his face was turned up to the stars.

"Take me back to the place
Where I first saw the light—"

sang the army.

"Boom!" thundered the drum. "Boom, boom!"

Billy caught the enthusiasm.

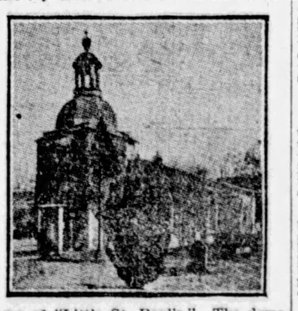
"Hurrah," he shouted, "hurrah!"

"Father, be quiet," said Molly, both she and John laughing in sympathy.

"I can't," Billy answered earnestly. "I can't, Molly, I'm so gloriously happy."

LITTLE ST. PAUL'S.

From the fact that it is surmounted by a dome instead of a steeple or tower, as most of the churches in England are, this little ivy covered church has earned the



name of "Little St. Paul's." The dome is not only unusual in design, but bears on its summit the still more uncommon decoration of an urn. The architect and designer was the celebrated Inigo Jones, who had so much to do with the building of St. Paul's in London.

"SINCE CLEOPRATA DIED."

"Since Cleopatra died!" Long years are past,
In Antony's fancy, since the deed was done,
Love counts its epochs, not from sun to sun,
But by the heart-throb. Mercilessly fast
Time has swept onward since she looked her last
On life, a queen. For him the sands have run
Whole ages through their glass, and kings have won
And lost their empires o'er earth's surface vast
Since Cleopatra died. Ah! Love and Pain
Make their own measure of all things that be.
No clock's slow ticking marks their deathless strain;
The life they own is not the life we see;
Love's single moment is eternity;
Eternity, a thought in Shakespeare's brain.

—T. W. Higginson.

A Philadelphia Idea.

The Lady—Little boy, why are you twisting that poor cat's tail?

The Boy—I want to make her screech, an' then the lady next door will throw flatirons at her. Ma wants to iron today, but she hasn't any irons.—Philadelphia Record.

For Bachelors Only.

A lottery dinner is the latest, and it seems that it should be served to bachelors only. It is usually a turkey dinner, and after the soup course each bachelor chooses a ticket and when the turkey is brought on a corresponding number of tickets are in it, being put in at random by the cook. Each guest receives the piece of turkey for which his ticket calls.—Warsaw (Ind.) Times.

WHO CANNOT BE CURED.

Backed up by over a third of a century of remarkable and uniform cures, a record such as no other remedy for the diseases and weaknesses peculiar to women ever attained, the proprietors and makers of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription now feel fully warranted in offering to pay $500 in legal money of the United States for any case of Leucorrhea, Female Weakness, Prolapsus, or Falling of Womb, which they cannot cure. All they ask is a fair and reasonable trial of their means of cure.

"I was a great sufferer for six years and doctored all the time with a number of physicians but did not receive any benefit," writes Mrs. George Sogden, of 641 Bonda Street, Saginaw (South), Michigan. "I had given up all hope of ever getting better. Thought I would write to you. When I received your letter telling me what to do I commenced to take your 'Favorite Prescription' and follow your advice. I have taken ten bottles in all, also five vials of the 'Pleasant Pellets.' Am now regular, after having missed two years and suffered with pain in the head and back. I was so nervous, could not eat or sleep. Now I can thank you for my recovery."

Don't hesitate to write to Dr. R. V. Pierce, chief consulting physician to the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, at Buffalo, N.Y., if you want good medical advice from a fully qualified physician as to your personal good health. Such letters are always answered free of charge and confidentially.

A medicine which has outsold all others for women in the past third of a century and being recommended by all those who have used it, is a good remedy to tie to. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription is purely vegetable and does not contain a particle of alcohol to destroy the blood corpuscles and weaken the system. Do not permit the dealer to insult your intelligence by suggesting some other compound which he recommends as "just as good," because he makes it himself.

The Farmstead

Questions for Answers.

The following questions are submitted to readers for answer. We do this in the hope of getting the results of actual and successful experience, which will be the most valuable answers possible:

I have a Plymouth Rock rooster, three years old, that seems to have the sleeping disease. What is the cause and cure? He eats regular and heartily.—B., Abbott.

Will some one please give me a sure and permanent cure for heaves in horses? —H., Roachdale, Ind.

Will some of your readers kindly tell me through your columns what is the cause of a cow giving bitter milk? Her condition is good otherwise, and she gets good healthy food. I would like the information at the earliest moment.—R., Lost Creek, W. Va.

I have a stallion, nine years old, in good flesh; seems to feel well, but has lumps on the under side of his tail, from the size of a pea to that of a hen's egg. There are probably two dozen of them. There are a few also on his neck. They are very hard. What is the cause, also a cure?—L., Fisher, Pa.

Will some reader of The Blade please tell me through the Farmstead, how to soften a beef hide? This hide was taken off the beef a number of years ago. It was tanned and thoroughly cured, all but oiling. This summer I tried fish-oil, but to no advantage. Any reply will be heartily welcomed by M., Marengo, O.

Will some reader of The Blade give a remedy for hogs coughing? I have a bunch of shoats that have a cough. They cough mostly in the morning after getting out of their bunk. One or two of them cough at times through the day. They eat and drink all right, and look well.—L., Florence, Kan.

I am a constant reader of your valuable paper and have been a subscriber for many years and have found many valuable recipes and remedies in the Farmstead. I would like to ask a question in regard to spraying fruit trees for the "scales." Several weeks ago some one gave a solution in the Farmstead, but did not say when or how often to spray. I would be pleased if the gentleman, or some one else who knows, would tell the proper time to spray; and is the solution of lime, sulphur and salt fit to use on apple, pear and plum trees? The scale has commenced to bother, and I want to check it if possible. I would like to hear from some one who has had experience.—E., Moon's P. O., O.

Transplanting Trees.

Editor Farmstead:—Growing fruit trees from seed and transplanting them and small and large forest trees from a little girl up, I felt competent to superintend and do a good share of the work in transplanting 30 hard maple 35 feet apart along both sides of the road on our farm, and now at 10 years those that were large enough to tax my husband and I to our utmost in loading, unloading and planting are ready to furnish us delicious sweets; besides, by nailing pailings against them and the cherry trees I planted between the maples we have a wire fence fastened to them. I have occasionally set a tree out along the line fences, hoping to have live fence posts sometime. Dig around the tree, carefully follow up the roots and save as many as long as you can; pry up the tree with a strong pole, cut the tap root, plant it deeper than it was, dig little trenches for long roots, pour on two pails of water after you carefully put in first good dirt with hand or a little stick, then press down as you fill in rest of dirt. During the last snow in spring of 1900 we dug up two buttonwood trees, 30 feet tall, hauled ¼ mile on stone boat with X-shaped scantling to hold top from dragging, tied old carpet around roots to keep dirt on, were careful not to bruise the trunks in any way. We trim very little a few lower limbs and nip the ends. I never yet ever cut the top off a tree—a mutilated tree is such a pitiful sight. I never let roots freeze or dry, so it took the best of a day for each tree, but when I look out front or go to the back for a pail of water and see their pretty white bark, expanding like the 7-year locust, I forget the hard labor of planting them. Plant early in spring for success.—Mrs. M., Meadville, Pa.

Butter and Eggs.

Editor Farmstead:—K., of Curran, Ill., asks in The Blade of Nov. 5th, how to exterminate the weed known as butter and eggs. We have a weed sometimes called butter and eggs, though more commonly called stink weed. If this weed is the same, salt will kill it, and all other vegetation as well.—K., Bath, N. Y.

Curing Hams.

Editor Farmstead:—Here is a recipe for smoking hams that I have tried and found all right. I inclose the recipe as cut from a newspaper, and I can clip it again from the Blade:

To 100 pounds of meat use four quarts of salt, four pounds of brown sugar, and three ounces of saltpeter, the ingredients to be well mixed, the salt having been beaten fine. When the meat is cold rub in two-thirds of the mixture and pack the meat in a cask; the next day rub in the remaining third and put the meat again in the cask, reversing the pieces from top to bottom. Let them remain three weeks, reversing the pieces once a week. At the end of three weeks pour off the liquid and skim till clear, and when cool pour over the meat again. At the end of three weeks wash the meat in hot water, wipe dry and smoke three weeks, after which bag and hang up.

Those who cure their own hams might do well to try this recipe, but we would suggest that the length of time for remaining in the brine and that required for the smoking might vary a little, according to the size of the hams, as the small ham or shoulder would be cured a little quicker than the large ham. Something might also depend upon the taste of those who intended to eat it, as some want but little salt and others but little smoke.

Shrinking of Pork.

Editor Farmstead: We have noticed that if our pig is gaining steadily up till the killing day the meat does not shrink, while if for a day or two before the pig's losing flesh the pork will shrink when fried; we learned this about ten years ago.—W., Northfield, Minn.

Editor Farmstead: The grease can all be fried out of the best pork. Now boil a piece of pork until it is tender. You have something good to eat and the meat is all there, or slice a little of it and brown to the taste in a spider. Put a piece on a dish of beans and brown in the oven.—K., Cortland, N. Y.

Hollow Horn.

Editor Farmstead: I reply to T., of Gibbon, Neb., I wish to say that we have had quite a little experience with hollow horn, or whatever you call it, as we live in a regular dairy country.

You will first notice the cow falling on her milk. If she is giving milk, and all of ours were. We have had four, and two were so bad they were given up to die before we found what the trouble was. One coughed quite a good deal also and they fell off in flesh and appeared listless and didn't rustle around to eat like the others, invariably if nothing is done they "lose the cud." If you will examine the tail you will find a part of the bone gone entirely. We take a sharp knife and split this place up and down, both ways, until you bring the blood; spin around on each side of this incision and fill this place with salt and pepper, well rubbed in. This seemed to cause not the slightest pain or inconvenience, and in half an hour a cow so bad off that she would not eat anything, and seemed hardly able to stand, was eating, in a few days was giving her usual mess of milk and never was the least bit ill afterward.

Another one had begun bloating and lost her cud and almost dried up. In a week after this slight operation was performed she had gained on her milk wonderfully and was apparently as well as any cow.

Now as to what causes this I do not know nor why this treatment should cure, but this I do know, it does cure, and has never failed in any case I have seen or heard of. If it is not hollow horn it certainly is hollow tail, as anyone can see for himself by examining an afflicted animal, whether it is called by that name or not.

In our part of the world very few animals are allowed to have horns, so they could not be hollow, but the tails are. Why one animal among a whole herd on the same feed, etc., should be affected in this way is more than I can understand, and if anyone knows more about this than I do, would be very glad to hear from him.—Cherie, Hebo, Ore.

"Baby Beef."

The Chicago Record-Herald, speaking of the recent International live stock exposition in that city, says the feature of the affair was "baby beef," which it explains thus:

"America, focussed in Chicago, is the meat center of the world. Great Britain, however, was the native heath and happy hunting ground of blooded cattle. The aim of the international live stock exposition is to combine the functions of Great Britain and of America. As we are preeminent in slaughtering, so we ought to be pre-eminent in breeding. Hence the appearance among us of bulls that sell for $10,000.

"Now, take a calf that enjoys the distinction of being the offspring of a $10,000 bull. Besides its own mother, give it several foster mothers. When it becomes a yearling, instead of weighing 500 pounds, it will weigh 1,250. Its flesh will be of the most dainty and delicate kind. Put it through the mystery at the stockyards and it will make export beef superior to any ever before put on the market. 'Baby beef' is a scientific triumph.

"Of course there is one drop of gall in this triumph. Almost all 'baby beef' goes abroad to adorn the table of the foreigner. We get the money; they get the beef. Money is not succulent."

Plant Potatoes.

Under similar circumstances, as a matter of fact, an acre planted with potatoes will yield more than ten, fourteen or seventeen times as much food material as will one upon which wheat, rye or peas, respectively, is grown.

Mushroom Growing.

Editor Farmstead:—The inquirers about mushroom growing in your department may be interested in mushroom-growing here in the capital of the nation. The abandoned vats of a brewing establishment in the north west section have been transformed into beds for mushroom growing with almost as good profits as were formerly realized from the beer. Several have made use of their back yards for the purpose with satisfactory results. The mushrooms are easily grown, the yield is prolific, and their sale good.

According to the figures given by a dealer at the market, a 15-foot bed will grow about 90 pecks of marketable mushrooms. The cost of the bed is about $8. The growers receive 75 cents a peck for the best, and 50 cents a peck for the second grade, the size and quality determining the price. He figured out that three women of his acquaintance were clearing each about $35 a month out of mushrooms grown in the cellars of their homes.

The marketman said a good cellar was the best place to raise mushrooms. He said the few things necessary to success were few. First, the cellar in which they are to be grown must be kept at a temperature of about 65 degrees, and should be well ventilated, and arrangements should be made to have the soil moist.

Good manure, rich in phosphate, must be used to form the foundation of the bed, which will be built preferably upon a dirt floor. Two loads will be necessary for a bed 15 feet long. The mushroom spawn can be procured in the shape of bricks from the florists and nurserymen. The temperature of the bed must be tested, and no planting must be done until it is below 95 degrees. Then the bricks can be broken in half-inch pieces and distributed evenly over the bed.

Chicken Cholera.

Editor Farmstead:—In reply to an inquirer who wanted a cure for chicken cholera, please tell him to take one teaspoon of black antimony and two teaspoons of saltpeter; mix thoroughly in one quart of meal; put in enough water to make it congeal. Feed this to your fowls twice a week. In extreme cases, oftener.—D., Daggett's Corner, Wis.

Advertising Questions.

P., Loch Sheldrake, N. Y., sends us a question as to "the best cattle tie or stanchion." We do not advertise the manufacturers of these or anything else, by naming them, or publishing advertisements.

If any reader can tell how to make a good article of the kind, we shall be glad to publish his letter.

Value of the Department.

In the activity of the agricultural department more and more attention seems to be devoted to the preventive and preservative work which is carried on by a number of its bureaus. The diseases of plants and animals are now made a subject of close study, and the department is seeking to gather for the benefit of the agricultural producer the best light that experimental science can throw upon the problems that confront him. One of these problems which has caused widespread anxiety is that connected with the ravages of the cotton boll weevil. Two of the bureaus of the department have been devoting special attention to combating this pest, but in spite of all that can be done it is constantly spreading north and west, and it seems but a question of time when it will reach all the cotton-growing states. In the cotton states themselves conventions to consider ways and means of dealing with this evil are being held and stringent measures of prevention are being suggested. The matter presents a problem which transcends state lines. Secretary Wilson, in his report, we notice, advocates the appropriation of a cotton investigating fund amounting to $500,000 for immediate use in connection with the problem. This illustrates the secretary's interest in staying a pest that threatens a crop furnishing what is in point of value the largest of our agricultural exports, and, indeed, the most considerable single product sent abroad.

Sure Relief for Women.

No. 18 Central Ave.
HOT SPRINGS, ARK., April 20, 1903.

Eighteen months ago I was so completely run down that my body ached from head to foot. My back seemed to break in two and I suffered intense pain in the lower abdomen. I could not afford to lay off and take a rest, and no medicine helped me any.

A friend told me how much Wine of Cardui built her up and advised me by all means to take it. The day I took the first dose the recovery of my health began. It was nearly three months before I was entirely cured, but at the end of that time I was in better health than I had been for seven years. I look on Wine of Cardui as the most blessed medicine that a woman could possibly take when she feels sick and tired of life.

Anna Nelson
ORATOR, WEDNESDAY CHAUTAUQUA CLUB.

WINE of CARDUI

Mrs. Nelson describes the condition of thousands of women. That condition comes by slow stages. Usually the important function of menstruation is at first slightly irregular. Then comes the painful periods. Bearing-down pains and ovarian inflammation follow. Finally the nervous system gives way and the whole system has become affected and the pains rack the body from head to foot.

Wine of Cardui is a menstrual regulator of established reputation. No woman who takes it suffers as Mrs. Nelson suffered. It gives speedy and complete relief from the torturing menstrual agonies which are making so many women invalids today. Do not let yourself come to the pitiable condition Mrs. Nelson describes.

Secure a bottle of Wine of Cardui from your druggist today and begin treatment immediately.

Recent Literature.

The following books have been received by The Blade from the publishers named. For further information address the publishers, not us:

From the Macmillan Co., 66 Fifth avenue, New York:

American Sculpture, by Lorado Taft, traces the development of this art in the United States down to the present time. It has twelve photogravures and many other illustrations.

Fanny Burney, by Austin Dobson, is an interesting biography of the English novelist who later became Madame D'Arblay. It is an interesting picture of those times.

The Foe of Compromise is a book of four essays, the longest giving its title to the volume by William Garrott Brown. The first is an argument regarding that something in humanity which opposes all compromise concerning our ideals.

From L. C. Page & Co., 200 Summer street, Boston:

The Pitti Palace, by Julia de Wolf Addison, gives a history of the famed Pitti palace at Florence, and a description of the world-famed paintings it contains. Thirty-eight pictures are reproduced as illustrations.

Japanese Art, by Sadakichi Hartmann, gives an art history of Japan, with thirty-two illustrations reproduced from celebrated works of Japanese artists.

From Geo. P. Putnam's Sons, 27 West Twenty-third street, New York:

Elizabeth Luther Cary has edited the poems of Dante Gabriel Rossetti, which have been given substantial form in two handsome volumes.

Christalan, by Katrina Trask, is a pretty gift book which tells in stately measure the story of the son of the brave knight, Noel. It is beautifully illustrated.

Ballads of the Busy Days, by S. E. Kiser, is a collection of the popular short poems of that author, which have had publication in periodicals. Forbes and Company, Boston, are the publishers. The same firm has published also Mr. Kiser's Soul Sonnets of a Stenographer, a "companion piece" the to Love Sonnets of an Office Boy.

The Fleming H. Revell Co., Chicago, has brought out a new edition of Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, with 31 illustrations. It is called the Puritan edition.

Colonel Carter's Christmas, by F. Hopkinson Smith, is another of those tales of the lovable old Virginian which are so popular. It is beautifully illustrated. Charles Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York.

When Malindy Sings is a volume of verse by Paul Lawrence Dunbar, taking its title from the first poem. The book is beautifully illustrated. Dodd, Mead & Co., Fifth avenue and 35th street, New York.

Doubleday, Page & Co., Union Square, New York, have issued a new edition of the Memoirs of Mme. Vigee Lebrun, the famous portrait painter of the 18th century. The book is very entertaining.

The United States in Our Own Time by E. Benjamin Andrews, treats of the period from reconstruction to the present —that is, from 1870. It is an admirable work. Charles Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York.

Barlasch of the Guard is an historical novel by Henry Seton Merriman, treats of the time of Napoleon's march to Moscow. It is brilliant and interesting. Shute, Phillips & Co., 141 East 25th street, New York.

Today in Syria and Palestine is a book of William Eleroy Curtis' letters to the Chicago Record-Herald, describing scenes and conditions in Syria and Palestine as they appear today to the eyes of a reporter. Fleming H. Revell & Co., Chicago.

In the way of a really useful and practical holiday gift, it will be difficult to find anything more satisfactory than the Twentieth Century Subscription Edition of the Standard Dictionary, published by Funk & Wagnalls Company, New York. The latest edition of these wonderous tomes of information and instruction, is replete with modern improvements which bring it thoroughly up-to-date.

Famous Actors and Actresses and Their Homes, by Gustave Kobbe, is a well-illustrated book telling of the homes and home life of stage favorites, giving of them pen-portraits which include stories of their professional lives and how they happened to go on the stage. Little, Brown & Co., Boston.

The Bobbs-Merrill Co., Indianapolis, has brought out a beautiful edition of The Courtship of Miles Standish with illustrations by Edward Chandler Christy, which are, of course, the star attractions of the book. There are forty illustrations picturing interesting events in this famous courtship.

The Harresters, by Aubrey Lanston, is a novel of English life in the early years of the nineteenth century. The scene is in England. R. H. Russell, 3 West 20th street, New York.

Ike Glidden in Maine is an amusing novel by A. D. McFaul, which gives a clear picture of New England rural life. The Dickman Publishing Co., Boston.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY
Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25 cents.

Uncle Sam's Mail.

Last year, if an average were made, every man, woman and child in the United States received 61 letters, 21 newspapers or periodicals, and 14 packages; and every sixth person registered a letter.

Successful.

"What's the matter with your finger, that you've got it in splints?"

"My oldest boy's ingenuity."

"How so?"

"He set a steel trap in his stocking to catch Santa Claus."—Smart Set.

FENCE! STRONGEST MADE. Bull Strong, Chicken-Tight. Sold to the Farmer at Wholesale Prices. Fully Warranted. Catalog Free. COILED SPRING FENCE CO. Box 216 Winchester, Indiana, U. S. A.

STARK TREES best by Test—77 Years. FRUIT Book free. We WANT MORE SALESMEN PAY Weekly. STARK BRO'S, Louisiana, Mo.; Dansville, N. Y.

Question Bureau

RULES.—1.—Your real name and post-office address must be on the sheet with the question. Initials will not do. 2.—Ask only one question; that is, there may be several questions all on the same subject, but not different subjects. 3.—The editor of the Bureau is not allowed to give the address of any person or firm, nor about the reliability of any person or firm, nor where you can buy anything or sell anything—nothing in the way of free advertising. 4.—We reserve the right to decline to answer any question not of general interest; and will not answer any questions concerning prices of old coins, stamps, etc. 5.—Don't ask replies by mail. If a question is of general interest to our readers, we will reply in print, but never by mail.

The Great Ice Age.

At the Field Columbian Museum at Chicago, is a large map of North America, given by our government from the World's Fair, of a glacier which reaches from the North Pole as far south as 40 or 50 degrees north latitude, and extending from ocean to ocean. Why was this once covered with a glacier and not now? And did this have anything to do with forming our great lakes, or the cause of forming anything else?—F. M., Memphis, N. Y.

The map of which you speak represents North America during the glacial epoch. The tertiary period of geology is divided into the glacial epoch and the drift epoch, immediately following. During the glacial epoch, the continent, as you describe, was covered with ice and snow. The thickness of this icy covering varied with the surface over which it moved. Thicknesses of a mile or more were certainly common, growing thinner toward the southern edges, and probably much thicker in the centers of accumulation. The Adirondacks, the Catskills and the White mountains were all covered, as is proved by the glacial markings on the solid rocks, and the bowlders left on their summits by the retiring ice. Mt. Katahdin, Maine, was probably the only mountain in New England whose summit rose above the sea of ice. In fact, we can find the same conditions as then prevailed in Greenland at the present time. The interior of that land is covered with an ice-cap hundreds of feet thick, which reaches the sea as glaciers through the many mountain valleys, where huge masses of ice break off and float off in the northern Atlantic as icebergs.

As to the causes of this period, probably thousands of years in duration, following upon a much warmer climate than that at present in the same regions, which prevailed in the tertiary period, the scientific world has not yet agreed upon a fully satisfactory explanation. Croll's theory probably has the largest number of supporters, and doubtless is at least a part of the truth. For a full explanation of this theory, you should consult some large work on geology. Briefly, it rests upon changes in the elongation of the earth's orbit around the sun, and upon the precession of the equinoxes.

We now have summer in the northern hemisphere when the earth is farthest from the sun, because the northern hemisphere is inclined to the sun in that part of the earth's orbit. The results from the precession of the equinoxes that, 10,500 years ago, there was summer in the northern hemisphere when the earth was nearest the sun, and winter when the earth was passing through the remoter and longer part of its orbit—that is, the summer was short and hot, the winter very long and very cold. Fix this well-ascertained fact of astronomy in the mind.

Now, consider that, at somewhat irregular intervals, of tens or even hundreds of thousands of years, the earth's orbit is gradually stretched out, so that the earth is 14,000,000 miles nearer the sun in one part of its orbit than in another. When winter occurs at the greater distance, it is very long and very cold, and the summer very short. At that period, the northern and southern hemispheres would tend toward glacial conditions as they alternately came to these severe winters. So far as the region along the Great Lakes is concerned, the glacial ice retired not less than 7,000 years ago, and probably much longer.

The ice age had nothing to do with the formation of the Great Lakes. The vast ice sheet passed over them. The evidences of glacial action elsewhere are unchecked. Here in Ohio, where about half the state was covered with it, evidences are everywhere. Toledo is built on a thick bed of blue clay, caused by the ice age. The clay is simply shale the ice ground to a mud by the ice passing over the rock, and then deposited here. One can find bowlders on the surface which were brought from the hills of Canad, across Lake Erie. The rocks at the Lake Erie islands show deep grooves by the ice-sheet which pushed over them. The ice itself did not cut the rocks, of course, but fragments of granite, frozen in it, acted as gravers. Any school geology will tell you much more than we have space to give about this very interesting subject.

Trick Photographs.

Will you please tell me how a photograph of a person's head can be put on an other person's body with a negative made with a portrait camera?—C. L. R., Tallapoisa, Ga.

We cannot explain the method of doing this or other things of like nature upon one negative, which requires a camera made for such purposes, and is not of enough interest for us to take the space. A common way of putting heads on different bodies is to cut the head out of one print, paste it carefully on the second print, in proper position, retouch the picture, and then make a negative from it.

Slang Terms.

W. T. C., Napoleon, O.: The terms "five" or a "joint" are applied to saloons to which low women resort to meet men, as well as to houses of ill fame. The terms "blind tiger," "blind pig," and "speak easy" originated in states which have prohibition laws. They mean, placed simply, that liquor is sold in violation of law. The term "tenderloin" was first applied in New York city, which had a large number of evil resorts, gambling houses, etc. A police captain was removed from another district to it, and remarked that he had been having round steak, but now had tenderloin." This was at a time when Tammany had full sway, and houses of ill fame and gambling houses paid the police for immunity from arrest. From this the term "tenderloin" spread, and now refers to the parts of a city where vice abounds. "Graft" is the payment of money corruptly. Thus a policeman has a graft when a saloonkeeper pays him to keep his eyes shut to violations of law. Please don't ask us any more definitions of this sort.

"Yellow" Journalism.

Will you please give me a definition of the term "yellow" journalism?—H. H. M., Bloomdale, O.

It means so many different things that an enumeration would be difficult. Taken together, it means the doing of things which are not deemed right nor honorable in the newspaper business. A few examples may be given to illustrate: A mysterious murder was committed. It is the legitimate province of a newspaper to report the facts, to state the views of the police as to the perpetrator. But a yellow journal set its reporters to work as detectives, promulgated its theory of the crime, and really hampered the officers of the law in their duties. This was not legitimate journalism; yet the paper boasted day after day of its "public spirit," and scored the police for inefficiency; yet it did not trace the murderer, nor unveil the crime. Another yellow paper gathered public subscriptions for a certain deserving object, yet charged full advertising rates for all that it said about it, which it took out of the money it collected, paying the remainder over. The term "yellow journalism" also includes the publishing of articles on persons in the public eye, especially very wealthy people, manufacturing stories about their daily lives which are largely imaginary. Then these papers are constantly originating "wonder stories," such as that the moon is inhabited, that lights have been seen on Mars that are supposed to be signals, and so on. This is enough to give you an idea of "yellow" journalism.

CURES WEAK MEN FREE.

Insures Love and a Happy Home for All.

How any man may quickly cure himself after years of suffering from sexual weakness, lost vitality, night losses, varicocele, etc., and enlarge small weak organs to full size and vigor. Simply send your name and address to Dr. Knapp Medical Co., 862 Hull Building, Detroit, Mich., and they will gladly send free receipt with full directions so that any man may easily cure himself at home. This is certainly a most generous offer, and the following extracts taken from their daily mail show what men think of their generosity.

"Dear Sirs—Please accept my sincere thanks for yours of recent date. I have given your treatment a thorough test and the benefit has been extraordinary. It has completely braced me up. I am just as vigorous as when a boy and you cannot realize how happy I am."

"Dear Sirs—Your method worked beautifully. Results were exactly what I needed. Strength and vigor have completely returned and enlargement is entirely satisfactory."

"Dear Sirs—Yours was received and I had no trouble in making use of the receipt as directed, and can truthfully say it is a boon to weak men. I am greatly improved in size, strength and vigor."

All correspondence is strictly confidential, mailed in plain, sealed envelope. The receipt is free for the asking and they want every man to have it.

The Wilmot Proviso.

Editor Blade:—In your issue of Dec. 3, C. H. K., of Mansfield, Ohio, asks for information relative to the Wilmot proviso. At the close of your answer you say that you never heard it intimated that Wilmot was not the actual author of the proviso. I can give your readers an interesting historical fact regarding its authorship. The famous resolution was drawn up by Jacob Brinkerhoff, of Mansfield, Ohio, who was elected to congress in 1843. The original draft of the document is now on file in the library of congress in his handwriting. Several copies of this resolution were made and distributed among the Free Soil members of congress, with the understanding that whoever among them should catch the speaker's eye and get the floor should introduce it.

Hon. John Sherman, in his Personal Memoirs, vol. 1, page 104, gives to Jacob Brinkerhoff the credit of drawing up the proviso. The same honor is conferred on him by a son of the Hon. Henry Wilson, in a biography of his illustrious father, who served one term as vice president, having been elected with Grant.

George Brinkerhoff, now a resident of Mansfield, Ohio, and a prominent attorney there, a son of the congressman, has in his possession a letter in reference to this fact written in 1894 by Hon. Wm. M. Cook, of Tennessee, who was a colleague of Brinkerhoff's in the 29th congress. We quote from that letter as follows: "A number of anti-slavery congressmen had procured copies of the ordinance of 1787, drawn up by Thomas Jefferson and applied by congress to all that territory ceded by the state of Virginia to the United States lying northwest of the Ohio river, which, by its terms forever excluded slavery or involuntary servitude from said territory, except as a punishment for crime, whereof the party should have been duly convicted. Intending to offer it as an amendment to the bill, when reported to the House by the committee of the whole. . . . When the bill was reported to the House, there was a great struggle for the floor, at least twenty members claiming it. The speaker, Mr. John W. Davis, of Indiana, awarded the floor to David Wilmot, of Pennsylvania, who did not have a copy of the ordinance of 1787 in his hand. Mr. Brinkerhoff having a copy, handed him his, which he offered as an amendment to the bill, and thus made his name immortal. This is a true statement of the transaction as seen by an eye witness."

Mr. Cooke, from whose letter this is quoted, had a seat in the House of Representatives next to that of John Quincy Adams, and when Adams was stricken with paralysis Cooke caught him and prevented his falling to the floor. There was at the funeral of "The Old Man Eloquent," a parliamentary from each state, and Mr. Cooke was the only one of the number yet living in 1894. Jacob Brinkerhoff was a judge of the supreme court of Ohio for fifteen years.—S. S. F., Oakdale, Pa.

American Authors.

Who are the noted living authors of America?—R. A. W., Bowling Green, O.

That is a large contract, for it is difficult to decide whom to name and whom to leave out, of the majority of young American authors. We give below a tentative list. Probably some would disagree with us and substitute different names for those we give, in certain cases. As for addresses, the rules at the head of the department distinctly say that no address will be given:

Fiction—Henry James, William Dean Howells, Edith Wharton, George W. Cable, Joel Chandler Harris, Thomas Bailey Aldrich, Henry Van Dyke, Thomas Nelson Page, Henry C. Haviland, James Lane Allen, F. Marion Crawford, F. Hopkinson Smith, Lew Wallace, Owen Wister, Jack London, Brand Whitlock, Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, John D. Barry, Richard Harding Davis, Irving Bachelier, Emerson Hough.

History—John Bach McMaster, Woodrow Wilson, Albert Bushnell Hart, Capt. Alfred T. Mahan, Henry Cabot Lodge.

Essayists—Thomas Wentworth Higginson, William Crary Brownell, Agnes Repplier, Hamilton Wright Mabie.

Poetry—James Whitcomb Riley, Edmund Clarence Stedman, Thomas Bailey Aldrich, Henry Van Dyke, George Edward Woodberry, William Vaughn Moody.

Biography—John Hay, Thomas E. Watson, George Edward Woodberry.

Humor—Mark Twain, Finley Peter Dunne (Mr. Dooley), George Ade, Gelett Burgess, Wallace Irwin, Alice Hegan Rice, Chester Bailey Fernald.

Prohibition Vote.

Will you please give the popular vote for each of the Prohibition candidates for President since 1872, their first to the present time or last candidate?—S. E., Bethany, Neb.

The vote was as follows:

1872—James Black	5,608
1876—Green Clay Smith	9,522
1880—Neal Dow	10,305
1884—John P. St. John	151,809
1888—C. B. Fisk	249,907
1892—John Bidwell	264,133
1896—Joshua Levering	132,007
1900—John G. Woolley	208,914

Louis Reil.

Along in the latter part of the 70's or 80's, I think, there was an uprising among the Indians in western Canada and their leader was a man by the name of Louis Reil. Please tell a little about it. Who was Reil, where was he born, what became of him and what was the trouble about?—C. H. N., New London, Wis.

Louis Reil (pronounced Ree-ell, accent on second syllable), was a Canadian half-breed—half French traper, half Indian—born in Manitoba, 1844, executed at Regina, Northwest Territory, Nov. 16, 1885. Reil was the leader of a rebellion among the Indians and half-breeds of the Red river country in 1869-70, against the Dominion government. This rebellion was suppressed by General Wolseley. He fomented another rebellion in 1885, which was put down by Middleton. Reil was given the death penalty by the court which tried him.

Population of Rome.

What was the population of the city of Rome proper at Caesar's time? Approximately what was the population of the entire Roman empire, including Great Britain and the far east?—B. A. D., Omaha, Neb.

We beg to remind you there was more than one Caesar who ruled Rome. The population of the city, if ever taken, is not known. All that modern historians can do is to make as careful estimates as possible. The estimate which is considered the most worthy of credence was made by taking the boundaries of the city as it existed in the time of Augustus and comparing this with the area of the cit yof Paris, and thus arriving at the population of Rome, supposing its population was the same as that of Paris on an equal area. This is an example in simple proportion. As the area of Paris is the area of Augustan Rome, so is the population of Paris to that of Rome. This gives Rome a population of that time of 210,000. To this is to be added the population of the suburbs—that is, of Rome outside of the walls—"extra muros." The estimate for this is 210,000, giving a total population for Rome and its environs of 420,000. Other estimates, but deemed less worthy of credence, put the population inside the walls at 362,000 and the total, for Rome and its environs, at 2,500,000.

As to the population of the empire at that time, which comprised the whole known world, we know of no estimate which is worth quoting. All are the merest guesses.

How Congresses Are Numbered.

Will you please explain to me the reason the present congress is called the fifty-eighth? Counting back 58 years, gives the year 1845. Did the sessions of congress date from that year? If so, why? Again, doubling 58 and taking its double (116) from 1903 I get the year 1787. What connection has that year with it?—H. E. L., Brookside, Ada.

You probably know that representatives in congress are elected for two years. The members of the Fifty-eighth congress were elected in November, 1902. Their terms began on March 4, 1903, and will end March 4, 1905. Each congress thus lasts two years. If you had taken 1905, the year in which the Fifty-eighth congress completes its life, and subtracted 58 years, you would have had 1789, the year in which the present United States constitution went into operation, and the first congress met. Congress meets in regular session annually on the first Monday in December. This year the President called it to meet in extraordinary session on Monday, November 9. That was the first session of the Fifty-eighth congress, and ended at noon on Monday, December 7—the first Monday in the month—the constitutional date for its assembling. From that time it was the second session, which will last until congress sees fit to adjourn next summer. The third session will begin on Monday, Dec. 5, 1904, and expire at noon on March 4, 1905, when the terms of all the members of the house expire. That will be the end of the Fifty-eighth congress, and the terms of the representatives elected in November, 1904, to the Fifty-ninth congress will begin. As you see, the congresses are numbered consecutively from 1789, when the constitution went into operation.

Rhode Island's Capital.

Why did Rhode Island have two capitals, Providence and Newport, and why was Newport abandoned?—J. R. S., Petrolla, Pa.

Settlements were made at two different places in what is now that state. One settlement was made at Providence, and the other on the island of Rhode Island, in Narragansett Bay, at what is now Newport. These two colonies had no political connection with each other. But a number of years afterward the king of England granted a royal charter uniting them under the name of the colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations. The people of neither place were willing to give up the capital, so the legislature met alternately at Providence and Newport, until a few years ago, the state neded new statehouses. The legislature decided to build one that should be a credit to Rhode Island at Providence, and when it was completed to make Providence the sole capital, which was done. A state neds but one capital. It is absurd to have the governor and all the state officers located in one city, and then have half of the legislative sessions held elsewhere. Connecticut had two capitals, Hartford and New Haven, for a similar reason, until after the civil war, when it was fixed at Hartford. Any school history of the United States will tell you of the separate settlements of these states and the union by royal charters.

The Baltic Sea.

It is said there are no tides in the Baltic sea; if not, why not?—J. W. M., Buford, O.

Arms of the ocean, unless they have wide mouths, and unless these mouths open in the direction in which the great tidal movements of the ocean move, have very slight tides. Often the movement is so small that it can be detected only by instrumental observations. The mouth of the Baltic opens crosswise to the direction of the tidal movement, which sets from the Atlantic up the English channel, and then northward. Probably there is a very small tidal movement in the Baltic—too small to be appreciated by mariners. The Mediterranean, which is much larger than the Baltic, is almost tideless, and the straits of Gibraltar open crosswise to the general movement in the Atlantic, which is there northward. These great tidal movements originate in the vast expanse of the Southern ocean, and move northward through the Pacific and Atlantic respectively. Get the book on the physical geography from some one—a high school student, for instance—and read the chapter on the tides. You will find it extremely interesting.

Humming of Telephones.

Concerning the "Humming of Telephones," (Dec. 3), is it not a fact that they do just as much humming when there is no wind as when there is a strong wind? In this city we use the liberal number of 6,700 telephones and naturally have some well-informed experts in that line. I have heard several times from them that the humming is due to change of temperature.—I. C. L., Spokane, Wash.

You do not seem to have noted that we gave two causes for the humming in telephones. One is induction; the other vibration of the wires caused by the air. We are glad your town is up to date, as is evidenced by the number of telephones it has, but the search was unwarded. I found a locality where that did not disappoint me as other Rheumatic prescriptions had disappointed physicians everywhere.

I do not mean that Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure can turn bony joints into flesh again. That is impossible. But it will drive from the blood the poison that causes the swelling. And when that is the end of Rheumatism. I know this so well that I will furnish for a full month my Rheumatic Cure on a strictly CASH OR NO PAY basis. It would be unreasonable to expect that. But most cases will yield within 30 days. The trial treatment will convince you that Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure is a power against Rheumatism—a potent force against disease, that is irresistible.

My offer is made to convince you of my faith. My faith is but the outcome of experience—of actual knowledge. I KNOW what it can do. And I know this so well that I will furnish my remedy on trial. Simply write me a postal for my book on Rheumatism. I will then arrange with a druggist in your vicinity so that you can secure six bottles of Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure to make the test. You may take it a full month on trial. If it succeeds, the cost to you is $5.50. If it fails, the loss is mine and mine alone. It will be left entirely to you. I mean that exactly. If you say the trial is not satisfactory I don't expect a penny from you.

I have no samples. Any more sample that can affect chronic Rheumatism must be drugged to the verge of death. I use no such drugs, for it is dangerous to take them. You must get the disease out of the blood. My remedy does that, even in the most difficult, obstinate cases. It has cured the oldest cases that I ever met, and in all of my experience, in all of my 2,000 tests, I never found another remedy that would cure one chronic case in ten.

Write me and I will send you the book. Try my remedy for a month, for it can't harm you anyway. If it fails the loss is mine.

Address Dr. Shoop, Box 528, Racine, Wis.

Mild cases not chronic are often cured by one or two bottles. At all druggists.

Dr. Shoop's

Rheumatic Cure

Costs Nothing If It Fails.

Any honest person who suffers from Rheumatism is welcome to this offer. For years I searched everywhere to find a remedy for Rheumatism. For nearly 20 years I worked to this end. At last, in Germany, my search was rewarded. I found a locally chemical that did not disappoint me as other Rheumatic prescriptions had disappointed physicians everywhere.

Concerning the Universe.

What reason have scientists for believing that the universe is limited in extent, and that the earth is, possibly, the only inhabited one of the heavenly bodies?—W. L. M., Portland Station, O.

We know of no scientific man of eminence who ever asserted that the universe is limited in extent, or that the earth could be the only inhabited planet. Do you? We think not. The position of real scientists on both these points is that "we don't know, and have no means of finding out."

Whether the universe has limitations is a question whose probability has been discussed. The subject is so vast it transcends the powers of the human mind. Infinity is something we can not conceive clearly. The mind is finite, and can no comprehend the infinite.

As for the question of inhabitancy, it has been discussed only with regard to the few planets which, like the earth, revolve around our sun. The fixed stars are all suns like our own—vast spheres of matter in a state of intense heat. We can not imagine that life exists on our sun. In the midst of heat so great that there are vast clouds, made up of the vapors of iron and other metals, floating over it, as clouds of watery vapor float over the earth. As for the fixed stars, we are certain that some of them are hotter than our sun, and some cooler; but none so cool that anything alive could exist there, unless it were able to live in a fiery furnace.

As for the other planets of our little system, we have no means of finding out whether they are inhabited or not. There is no use of speculating upon the subject. There have been many "wonder stories" in newspapers about Mars, and a person, not knowing the truth, would imagine from reading them that we are certain Mars is inhabited. However, there is absolutely nothing to throw light upon the cuestion, except the fact that Mars appears to have air and water, which are necessary for the existence of beings like curselves. As it is determined with some degree of accuracy that the moon has no air and probably no water, it is plain that beings like ourselves could not exist there. Neither could they live for half a month exposed to a heat as great as that on the Sahara at noonday, with glaring sunshine all the time, and the next half month in darkness, and in a cold probably much greater than the greatest degree of cold on the earth.

Another still more difficult question is whether the fixed stars have planets circling round them, as has our sun; and, if so, whether those planets are inhabited. As our sun has planets, it is reasonable to conjecture that the other suns have; but there is no possible way of telling whether this is so or not. No telescope can see them, if any planets exist. So what is the use of speculating whether they may have inhabitants or not?

The subject is one more attractive to the unscientific man than to the scientific one. The latter, if he possess the true scientific spirit, soon dismisses from his work all the problems that from their nature he knows to be unsolvable, for he knows that mere guesswork is unprofitable and a waste of time.

Dutch and German.

Please tell me the difference between Dutchman and German. What is meant by low Dutch? Do they all use the same form of print?—E. F. L., Mt. Vernon, O.

The word Dutch is from the Teutonic word Deutsche, once applied to the people and the language of the Teutonic race of central Europe. Low Dutch or Low Germans, are the inhabitants of the Low Countries—the flat, low region occupied by Holland, or the kingdom of the Netherlands. High Dutch, or High German, means the people living on the higher or mountainous regions—that is, of Germany proper.

As applied to language, German is the tongue of the Empire of Germany; Dutch is the language of Holland. New York was settled by the Dutch from Holland, and the word Dutch should be applied to them and their language only. The word Dutch is often applied by poorly educated people to all Germans, but this is incorrect, of course.

Dutch and German are different languages, but from the same original tongue. Dutch is printed in ordinary Roman letters; German in German letters.

Toussaint l'Ouverture.

Please give a sketch of the life of Toussaint l'Ouverture.—J. H. W., Wolcott, Ind.

Francois Dominique Toussaint, surnamed l'Ouverture, a noted Hayitian revolutionist, was born in Hayti in 1743, died in France in 1803. He was a negro slave, but received a rudimentary education. In 1791, after protecting his master's family, he joined the royalist faction of the time united with the Spanish Dominicans. In 1794, he turned traitor to them, and with a large force of negroes, joined the French republicans of Hayti, turning the scale in their favor, and acquiring great influence for himself, being made deputy governor and commander-in-chief. He was a notable figure in the disturbed affairs of the island, and eventually defeating his foes, became undisputed master of the west half of Hayti. In 1801 he occupied the eastern portion, which had been ceded to France, threw off all subjection to France, and promulgated a constitution which made him president for life, with the power of naming his successor, in July, 1801. Then Bonaparte sent a force to subdue the island, under Gen. Leclerc. Toussaint, after a time, was captivated and was pardoned May 1, 1802. The next month he was arrested for conspiracy, and sent a prisoner to France, where he died.

Manila.

R. P. M., Paulding, O.: Manila is the chief city of the Philippines, and one of the most important seaports in the far east. It is on a wide bay on the southwest coast of Luzon, 650 miles southeast of Horg Kong, and on both sides of the Pasig river at its mouth. On the south side of the river is the Walled City, founded in 1571, containing the archbishop's palace, churches and monasteries, the cathedral, university, Jesuit observatory, arsenal and barracks. It is surrounded by an enormous stone wall. On the north bank are the modern suburbs, Binondo and others, the commercial part of the city, with the Malacanan palace, once the headquarters of the Spanish governor-general, now the offices of the Philippine commission. The heat is great, the mean temperature for the year being 82 degrees. The population is about 250,000 of which 25,000 are Chinese. 5,000 Spaniards, and many Japanese and others. Sugar, hemp, cigars, tobacco and coffee make up three-fourths of the exports, and cotton goods, rice, twine, silk and flour are the leading imports. The city is governed by the Philippine commission, of course.

Learning Telegraphy.

A. J. F., Exeter, N. Y.: If you will read the Rules at the head of this department you will see that we will not answer questions about the reliability of firms or individuals, either in the paper or by letter. Now, if you will go to any manager of a first-class telegraph office, and inquire, you will find that managers, as a rule, don't want graduates of a school of telegraphy. They want young men who have learned in a telegraph office. The best way to learn telegraphy is to get permission in a railroad telegraph office.

Miscellaneous.

E. R. M., Cambridge, Neb.: Never saw a description of it.

W. A. T., Randolph, Ia.: We have not the data to answer.

R. D. Y., Mendon, Mich.: It would be too long for us to handle.

M. M. R., Cambridge City, Ind.: We regret to say we have not the dates.

N. A. H., Fairmont, W. Va.: Sorry to say we do not recall ever seeing it.

J. E. R., Wilber, Neb.: Unfortunately, we do not know who deals in such fossils.

J. J. F., Sandy, Ore.: We do not know. Any Catholic priest will be able to tell you.

R. V. O, North Freedom, Wis.: We never heard such a circumstance mentioned.

H. A. G. F., West Milford, W. Va.: No, we are not in the market for any literary material.

G. M. M., Cleveland, Ill.: We do not know. There is no armor below the water line.

J. R., Siloam, Mich.: We can not take space to publish the rules of any game whatever.

C. S. F., Knoxville, Tenn.: There are no new truths in the field of morals or ethics. Hence new religious fads are utterly worthless.

V. M., Seneca, Pa.: We decline all requests to print stories of crimes. Read something more improving, for your own sake.

C. W., Atlanta, Kan.: There is no central organization, no headquarters. Organize it as you would any independent temperance society, for instance.

J. M., Dayton, O.: The largest manufacturing places in Ohio are Cleveland, Cincinnati Toledo, Columbus, Springfield, Zanesville, Dayton, Akron and Youngstown.

J. V., Confluence, W. Va.: Had you not better ask the person who made the assertion to give clear proof of it? The writer never heard it before, and believes it a lie.

T. C. H., Herrick, Ill.: Gen. John C. Black is a gold Democrat, and voted for McKinley in 1896, and in 1900. Now that silver is dead, he will work with his party again.

J. B. S., Eunice, Mo.: Laws of the United States can be had only in the regular bound volumes of United States statutes. Any bookseller can obtain them for you. They are not sent free.

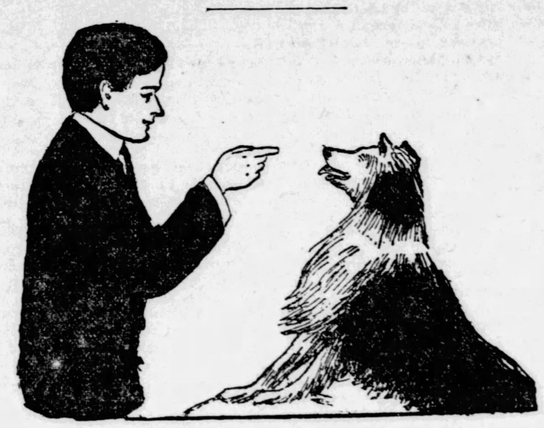
P. W., Woodham Summit, Pa.: We printed a list of all the Indian reservations two or three months ago, and can not spare space to reprint. If you will tell what you want to know about the Indians, we will try to answer.

M. W., Salem, Ind.: We have no list of girls who have married titled foreigners. We fear you have been reading the "wonder stories" of some yellow journal. A girl has the right to marry a foreigner if she wishes; and it is not the public's business.

D. H. S., Chaneyville, Pa.: When a request is made to change the address of a subscriber to The Blade, it is done at once, if he sends both the old and the new address. Unless we have the old we can not find the name, as our list is made up by postoffices, not alphabetically.

CHILLS AND FEVER, BILLS DOCTORS. Painkiller PERRY DAVIS' CURES THEM ALL

BOY WHO HAD A TALKING DOG.



"WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU SEE A CAT?"

Some time ago we told how one of our readers introduced to a party of friends his "mind-reading dog."

No doubt many of you remember reading about the sensation the dog caused when he found pencils, match boxes and knives among guests who had received them from their host while the dog was out of the room. Well, one boy among the guests had a dog of which he was very fond, and he could not bear to hear any other dog called "the cleverest dog in the world" and similar things that the girls say sometimes when they are very much pleased with anything. He had watched very closely and he thought he knew how the trick was done. He thought he could make his dog do a trick even more wonderful than that, but he did not say so then. He joined in the praise of his guest's dog, but all the way home he was trying to think of some new and astonishing trick to teach Grab, his collie.

A few days later several of his friends were asked in to a little tea. George, the boy, had done lots and lots of extra chores to get his mother to let him have that tea, and it was just exactly the kind boys like the best. Just as every one was eyeing a fresh pile of doughnuts, wishing some one else would take one first, there was a scratching at the door. George opened it, and in stalked his collie, Grab.

"How are you today, Grab?" asked George, holding out his hand. Grab extended his paw, and they shook hands just like two old friends, which, after all, is just what they were.

"Get a chair, and join us, Grab," said George. Grab walked to a corner of the room, took a small stool in his mouth and carried it to his master's side. Then he climbed on it and sat ready to eat anything offered him; not from the table, of course, but from George's fingers.

"Look's as if he could almost talk, doesn't he?" said one of George's friends. That was just what George had been waiting for.

"Talk?" he cried. "Talk? Why, he can talk! Of course he can talk! Do you suppose I would associate with a dog who couldn't talk?" The other boys looked at each other and smiled. They felt that something interesting was about to occur.

"What can he say?" asked one of them.

"Grab, I am about to ask you a few questions," said George. Grab blinked his eyes, but did not say anything.

"Now, Grab," continued George, "tell me what name is given to a small ship carrying three masts without a mizzen topsail?" Grab answered with a bark.

"Very good, sir," said George. "Grab, what grows on the trunk of a tree?" Of course a bark answered that question, too.

"Right again," said George. "Now, then, Grab, what do you do when you see a cat?" Grab barked very loudly, indeed, and George turned to his friends in triumph.

"There, fellows," he said, "if any one asks you about dogs, just tell 'em that George Burk's talking dog can answer questions like a college professor." He was the proudest boy in town. He had gone the mind-reading dog one better, and he and Grab were the heroes of the day.

Of course he had taught Grab to bark whenever he lifted his hand, which he did at every question he asked.

MR. SPENCER'S LIFE.

By the death of Herbert Spencer England loses one of her greatest philosophers and most profound thinkers.

The great student of evolution was born at Derby, April 27, 1820. From his father he learned to develop that power of originality in thought which led to the production of his deepest works. In his youth he was delicate, and during much of his life battled against illness. Until he was seven he could not read, says the New York Commercial Advertiser, and at school he showed a singular inaptitude for the lessons and the methods of the time.

Yet even at this time he startled his elders by his clear and concise mode of reasoning. His relations with his father and uncles were most happy. They were men of originality, from whom he received much aid in his chosen field.

At thirteen the boy was placed under the tutelage of an uncle, the Rev. Thomas Spencer, under whom he studied for three years, showing, however, little predilection for the classics, but much aptitude for mathematics and kindred subjects.

At the end of his course he returned to his father's home, and in the summer of 1837 accepted a post with the London and Birmingham railroad as a draughtsman.

On the collapse of the railroad boom, Spencer, then 26, turned to new activities.

He had already in 1842 published a series of letters on "The Proper Sphere of Government" in the Nonconformist. Now, if you will go to any manager of a first-class telegraph office, and inquire, you will find that managers, as a rule, don't want graduates of a school of telegraphy. They want young men who have learned in a telegraph office. The best way to learn telegraphy is to get permission in a railroad telegraph office.

Six years after, he became a sub-editor on the Economist and continued with that paper until 1852.

The philosopher in Spencer was now dominant, and his "Social Statics," attracted general attention. Then came his "Principles of Psychology," and, two years later, in 1857, he astonished the philiphers, the critics, and the clergy when in an article on "Progress: Its Law and Cause," published in the Westminster Review, he proclaimed the doctrine of evolution. This was the turning point in his career. He was firmly convinced that evolution is a universal process, and with this as the keynote he planned his synthetic philosophy. For thirty-six years he labored at this monument of original and constructive thought.

Spencer thus epitomized his system:

1. Throughout the universe, in general and in detail, there is an unceasing redistribution of matter and motion.

2. This redistribution constitutes evolution where there is a predominant integration of matter and dissipation of motion, and constitutes dissolution where there is a predominant absorption of motion and disintegration of matter.

3. Evolution is simple when the process of integration, or the formation of a coherent aggregate, proceeds uncomplicated by other processes.

4. Evolution is compound, when, along with this primary change from an incoherent to a coherent state, there go on secondary changes due to differences in the circumstances of the different parts of the aggregate.

5. These secondary changes constitute a transformation of the homogeneous into the heterogeneous—a transformation which, like the first, is exhibited in the universe as a whole and in all (or nearly all) its details: in the aggregate of stars and nebulae; in the planetary system in the earth as an inorganic mass; in each organism, vegetable or animal; in the aggregate of organisms throughout geological time; in the mind, in society, in all products of social activity.

6. That which persists unchanging in quantity, but ever changing in form, under these sensible appearances which the universe presents to us, transcends human knowledge and conception is an unknown and unknowable power, which we are obliged to recognize as without limit in space and without beginning or end in time.

Among the philosopher's warmest friends were Huxley, who did so much in the field of biology, and the Irishman, Tyndall, the master in electrical science, whose celebrated address delivered in Belfast in support of the theory of evolution set the clerics by the ears. Another friend of his was the great botanist, Sir Joseph Hooker.

Spencer paid a visit to this country in 1882. Here he found many friends, chief among them being Dr. Edward L. Youmans, for whose "International Scientific Series" he wrote the "Study of Sociology."

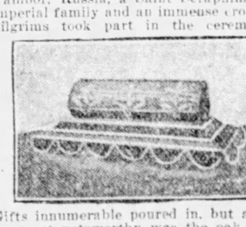
In working, it was Spencer's habit to dictate to an amanuensis after a morning walk in Kensington Gardens, and in doing so he never patched or began over again, but without notes talked on easily and continuously until a thousand words or so were on paper. He never worked in the afternoon.

The philosopher paid little attention to literature, but the "Autocrat of the Breakfast Table" he prized highly, was familiar with Shakespeare, and loved Scott.

Spencer's earliest honor came to him from Sir Julius Haart, the explorer, who gave the philosopher's name to a great mountain range in New Zealand. This was in 1870. Two years later he was offered the lord rectorship of the University of St. Andrew's, but he declined the honor and also refused the degree of LL. D. He declared that if the degree had been proffered when he was young and struggling it would probably have been of use to him, but he did not need it in his age. A similar honor by Cambridge was also declined. Nor would he become a member of the Royal Society. In fact, he declined all honors but was glad to receive congratulations from his friends.

TSAR GAVE COFFIN.

Recently there was canonized in the Hermitage of Sarov, in the Province of Tambor, Russia, a Saint Seraphim. The imperial family and an immense crowd of pilgrims took part in the ceremonies.



Gifts innumerable poured in, but among the most noteworthy was the oak coffin of peculiar shape, as seen above, presented by the Tsar of all the Russias, who was an active participant, for the repose of the relics of the newly made saint.

AN INDIANA PARADISE.

Ninety widows in a town of 2,500 population, every one good looking, all of them rich, and not one that wants to marry again. That is a par of the census record at Crownpoint, Ind.

At the intersection of two streets, making four corners, are two squares, called "Quality Corners," and at these corners are four widows whose aggregate wealth is more than $800,000, and in two blocks are eight widows who can draw their checks for at least $200,000 more. In the vicinity of "Quality Corners" are eleven desirable dwellings, all well to do. The rest of the ninety widows are scattered over town. These widows enjoy themselves and are noted for their acts of charity, and many of the poor people of the city can thank them for good dinners and warm clothing in winter. It was once reported that the widows at Crownpoint were going to organize a union, but the man who started the report mysteriously disappeared, and has never been heard of but once—then he was living the life of a hermit in a cave in the Rocky Mountains.

Another peculiarity of the census in Crownpoint is the fact that there is not an aged spinster in the town, not a bachelor, and only one widower. "Old maids" do not grow well, and bachelors are considered a disgrace. The one widower has been giving signs of matrimony lately, and there is no telling what is going to happen.

The matrimonial sharks of the large cities have heard about the wealthy widows who grace Crownpoint with their presence, and have sent agents here to get a list of names. Several of the widows have received offers of marriage, but they have turned them all down. If any of them should get married again, it is declared that the happy bridegroom will be one of Crownpoint's noblemen.—Indianapolis News.

A Proud Woman.

The county officers at Abilene were astonished the other day at the appearance in the court house of a little, old woman who came to pay her husband's funeral expenses. The husband had been drowned so long ago as 1879. He was buried by the county. Ever since, the woman said, she had been working and saving to relieve his spirit of the memory of a pauper burial. It was a pathetic story and one which touched its hearers mightily.—Kansas City Journal.

The Call of Duty.

He (passionately)—Oh, how I hate to leave you! Why, I could sit here and make love to you until morning.

She—But you mustn't stay any longer than that, dear. Remember you have your business to attend to.—Town Topics.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1903.

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CIRCULATION LAST WEEK - 161,000

THE EDITOR CHATS WITH HIS READERS

The year 1904 is pregnant with great events. Panama canal affairs now hold the center of the stage, and there is possibility of a war with Colombia. The canal treaty will be ratified by the Senate, and then preparations will begin for commencing the great work—or rather of taking it up where the French company left off.

On Saturday the Republican national committee decided to hold the national convention at Chicago, beginning June 21. The date of the Democratic gathering is not yet fixed, but it probably will be a week or two later. Then the great Presidential conflict will be on. Already the skirmishing has begun between the outposts. And it will be a very warm time, politically. It is vastly more important than there was in that of 1900, which was too one-sided to excite deep interest.

The Old World will see important happenings. The snows in the mountains of Macedonia stopped the revolutionary disturbances there, but did not end them. With the opening of spring there will be a renewal of the contest; and this is of the highest importance, for the fate of Turkey, "the Sick Man of Europe," involves the gravest results to the Great Powers of Europe, especially to Russia and England.

The Corean trouble, between Russia and Japan, is by no means ended. Even if the treaty now in negotiation is ratified, it simply postpones the war, which is inevitable. Then China herself is in unrest over the Manchurian matter. The Dowager Empress seems to be in earnest in endeavoring to reorganize the imperial army on modern lines, and to arm it with the latest weapons.

Note also that England has sent an expedition into Thibet, to compel the Dalai Lama to open his country to trade with India, according to treaties made in 1900 and 1902. Rumor has it that Russian troops are to be sent to oppose the British advance—and there we have another possibility of war. In fact, the overshadowing factor in the Old World is Russia. The nations are alarmed and angered at her steady advance, and must either permit it or fight.

And in this hurried enumeration the great Louisiana Purchase Exposition at St. Louis must not be forgotten. It opens in May, and ends in November. It will be the greatest world's fair ever held, and far beyond the Chicago one. The Blade expects to devote much space to illustrated articles describing this stupendous exposition.

Every American citizen needs a good newspaper—and where can he find a better one than The Blade? It is a weekly history of the world; it not only gives you the news that is really worth reading, but in editorial articles, and in Comment of the Week, it discusses these events and their bearings. And where can you get so much that is really valuable for so little money? Think it over. You cannot afford to do without The Blade, nor can you neighbor. Call his attention to this article, and to the paper itself, and see if you can not get him to subscribe along with you.

By the way—why not try for that watch, to be given to the one who raises the largest club for the month?

DOWIE'S CHANCE TO "PROVE UP."

The Blade is in receipt of a six-page pamphlet issued at Quadian, Punjab, India, entitled "Predictions concerning Pigott and Dowie, by the Promised Messiah." The latter is a Hindoo gentleman named Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, who asserts that he is the promised Messiah. He is the head of a queer sect of Indian Christians, whose members believe that Jesus did not die on the cross under Pontius Pilate; that he was simply in a swoon when removed therefrom; that the disciples hurried him into concealment, and that on his recovery from his wounds he made his way to India, where his asserted tomb is shown in the city of Srinagar, in the vale of Cashmere.

The Pigott referred to is an individual residing at Cedar Lodge, Clapton, London, who claims to be a reincarnation of Jesus, the son of Mary, and the very God. Dowie asserts that he is the reincarnation of the prophet Elijah. The claims of these two individuals are displeasing to Mirza Ghulam Ahmad. In the pamphlet he scores them both with great severity. Especially is he bitter toward Dowie, who, he alleges, predicted a year or more ago that all Mohammedans would perish, since they do not recognize Jesus Christ as God and Dowie as Elijah. In September, 1902, Mirza Ghulam Ahmad sent this challenge to Dowie:

> Whether the God of Mohammedans or the God of Dowie is the true God may be settled without the loss of millions of lives, which Mr. Dowie's prediction would involve. That method is that, without threatening the Mohammedan public in general with destruction, he should choose me as his opponent and pray to God that of us two, whoever is the liar may perish first. * * * In making this proposal, I have not taken the initiative, but the jealous God has inspired me upon Dr. Dowie's presumptuous prediction that all Mahommedans shall perish.

The challenge does not seem to have met with Dowie's approval. Did he fear that his death would follow its acceptance? So the Indian Messiah, in the pamphlet now issued, repeats the challenge to a praying match between himself and Dowie, that the one who is a liar may perish, and says he will wait for Dowie's reply until March 23 next, and adds that, if Dowie accepts, "the world will soon see the end of this contest." He threatens that, if Dowie does not accept, "calamity will certainly soon overtake his Zion." No doubt, when Mirza Ghulman Ahmad learns of Dowie's Zion having gone into bankruptcy, he will claim it as the direct result of the failure to accept the challenge.

RECOGNITION OF PANAMA.

Germany having recognized the Republic of Panama as an independent nationality, only Great Britain is left of the great commercial nations of the world as having failed in prompt recognition. This delay on her part is simply because the most of the bonds of Colombia are held by English investors, and the British government hopes to have Panama assume her proportionate share of this obligation. There is no opposition in London to recognizing the independence of Panama, and it would have been done before this had it not been for this matter of Colombia's debt.

These recognitions of Panama's entrance into the family of nations have been unusually prompt. There are two reasons for this. The first is the peculiar relations of the new republic to the United States. It is under the protection of this country in a particular way, due to the canal which will be built; and the rapidity with which our recognition of its independence was followed by the same step on the part of all nations of any consequence, was because of a judicious desire to be friendly to this country. The other is, that the world's commerce is anxiously waiting for the completion of the canal, and it is easy to see that with Panama out from under Colombia's thumb, and under the direction of the United States, it will be an accomplished fact far sooner than under any other possible conditions.

One good result is that Colombia already understands that her protests against recognition are futile; that the world accepts Panama's independence as an accomplished fact; and that in any effort to restore the old status she will not have the sympathy of any nation of importance. It would be well if this could be so clearly understood at Bogota that the government there would accept the situation, and move in the establishment of more friendly relations with the new republic.

GRAVE CRISIS IN COREA.

If the news despatches from the Far East are reliable, Russia has at last determined to move openly. Japan desires that the emperor of Corea shall open the port of Yongampho to the world's commerce. Russia does not wish the port opened to anybody but herself. Her policy is to keep other nations from trading in regions which she considers within her sphere of influence. Her pretext is that Yongampho is too near the mouth of the Yalu river, and that its opening would threaten her interests and complicate her difficulties in Manchuria.

So far as her land-grabbing in that part of the world is concerned, it is of interest only to those European nations which have similar designs in the same region. They are no particular concern of other countries, including the United States. But Russia is not willing to "play fair" in trade matters. She is not willing to compete on equal terms for the trade of Corea, nor for that of any region within her sphere of influence. Hence her demand that Corea shall not make Yongampho a free port. She desires Corean trade to be closed to the world, that it may inure to her benefit.

Corea is in a dilemma. Japan demands an open port, while Russia is opposing it. To complicate matters, the United States minister, Mr. Allen, on December 5, made a demand on Corea to open the port of Wiju, in the Yalu river, to the commerce of the world. This will of course, be antagonized by Russia, for she already has trade concessions in the Yalu valley, and an open port at Wiju would interfere more with her trade than would Yongampho.

Russia has sent a fleet of eight warships to Chemulpo, the port of the Corean capital; and threatens to land 3,000 men to march upon the latter if the Corean government shall dare to yield to Japan's demand. Considering the intense feeling against Russia among the Japanese people, it seems most probable that the demand for war will prove irresistible. Meanwhile it is reported that a Russian force will be sent into Tibet to oppose the advance of the English expedition from India to enforce the commercial treaties made in 1900 and 1903, opening Tibet to Indian trade. The Anglo-Japanese alliance, of which but little has been heard for some time, will probably soon appear in evidence.

BUILDING IN NOVEMBER.

The building statistics of the United States for November furnish a genuine surprise to a great many people. The croakers have been busy for some time with their assertions that the strikes in the building trades have paralyzed operations in all the cities.

The figures show that these gloomy assertions were ill-founded. They show the surprising fact that building operations for November were 25 per cent greater than for the same month last year. The permits taken out in the 21 principal cities were for 6,282 buildings, with a total value of $24,619,447, as against 5,486 structures, to cost $19,689,780. There is an increase of 796 buildings and of $4,929,658 in cost.

A FUNNY SALOON SITUATION.

Some months ago, New Hampshire repealed her prohibition statute, and enacted in its stead a local option and high license law. It was expected that the surreptitious sale of liquor would thus be replaced by a legalized sale, and that the revenues of the localities which might allow the saloon should be benefited by the license fees.

The law has a clause which leaves it to the discretion of the magistrates to determine persons to whom the saloons are not to be allowed to sell liquor. This is a provision which exists in many states, and is intended to apply to habitual drinkers, who would otherwise waste their money in saloons instead of providing for their wives and children.

Ex-Governor Goodell lives in the town of Hillsboro, and is a magistrate. One saloon was licensed in that town. Thereupon Mr. Goodell, acting in his official capacity, prepared a "black list" of persons to whom the saloonkeeper is not permitted to sell intoxicants. It includes the name of every voter in the town. Of course these men are protesting vigorously—not because they, or the majority of them, are anxious to be able to buy liquor at a saloon, but because they object to being posted in a list which is commonly suposed to contain the names only of men who are confirmed slaves to the liquor habit. Mr. Goodell is firm as a rock, however, and proposes to extend his plan to the whole state.

In the cities he will furnish a copy of the city directory to each saloonkeeper, with instructions to sell no liquor to any person named therein. In the smaller towns, he will use the voters' lists. If he succeeds, then the only persons to whom any saloon in the state may sell liquor are commercial travelers, and casual visitors from other towns and cities. A man with a thirst will have to go over to the next county to get a drink. The situation is somewhat absurd, but Mr. Goodell seems to have the strict letter of the law on his side.

HERBERT SPENCER.

Herbert Spencer is dead in his eighty-fourth year. Thus has passed from earth one of the greatest philosophic minds of the ages. In 1885, five years before Darwin's epoch-making Origin of Species was published, Spencer issued his Principles of Psychology, which is based upon the theory of evolution. Some years before he had become firmly convinced that all organized beings, vegetable and animal, have arisen by development. In 1854 he conceived of evolution as an universal process, and his book on psychology was his first public explication of that doctrine.

His work along this line convinced him that evolution must become the basis of any system of philosophy which conforms to the general method of nature. In 1860, he issued a prospectus of a system of synthetic philosophy, in which, beginning with the first principles of knowledge, he proposed to trace the progress of evolution in life, mind, society and morality. This was done in a series of ten volumes, the last of which did not see the light until 1893.

The doctrine of evolution as applied to life on the globe, of course, brought a storm of opposition from the narrow-minded portion of humanity. Spencer, however, lived to see his doctrine adopted by all leading minds of the world as the conception which most nearly coincides with the ascertained facts in the case, and which best explains observed phenomena. In its application to mind, to society, and to morality, the doctrine of evolution excited far less opposition, and gained acceptance without much controversy. The battle on the biologic side is still carried on intermittently by zealots who imagine it impugns Biblical doctrine, but even in this department, educated Christians accept evolution, though with degrees of reservation on this or that point. It is the highest possible tribute to the towering mentality of Herbert Spencer that he should live to see, within forty years, such a signal triumph of his philosophy.

PROF. LANGLEY'S AIR-SHIP.

The latest trial of the aerodrome invented by Prof. Langley, of the Smithsonian Institution, was even more discouraging than the former one. Then the machine flew a short distance, and took a dive into the Potomac. This time it broke in two immediately after leaving the launching stage.

Prof. Langley is simply repeating the experience of many another inventor before him. Failures are discouraging, but they must be met. That is the only road to success. That the theory of the aerodrome is correct and feasible, is proved by the little experimental machines which he sent aloft, and which maintained themselves in the air until the motive power was exhausted. His failures with a machine large enough to carry a man have been due to defective plans for the large machine itself, not to any defect in the principle. The breaking in two simply revealed structural weakness. Evidently the frame of the machine was too light for the stress put upon it in action. The only course is to build a new machine, which shall avoid the error revealed by the failure.

THE ALTARIAN AFFAIR.

The trouble at Alexandretta, a port of Asiatic Turkey, over an Armenian named Altarian, who is a naturalized citizen of the United States, should lead the government at Washington to take up two important points—one foreign, the other domestic.

The first is, that Turkey should be required to recognize naturalization, and be compelled to treat subjects of the Porte who have acquired citizenship in the United States the same as though they were native-born Americans.

The second is, that more care should be used in the naturalization of foreigners, especially those who are subjects of Turkey. The complaint has often been made that Armenians secure American citizenship simply for the purpose of protection against the Turkish government on their return. It is alleged that many get naturalized, not because they desire to settle permanently in this country, and become citizens in the best sense of the word, but simply as a business precaution against Turkish extortion and oppression.

The duty of the United States to protect all its citizens, native or naturalized, is imperative. But American citizenship should not be conferred indiscriminately, nor be used for selfish purposes, as is charged in the case of Armenians. The rights and privileges of citizenship should not be cheapened in the eyes of the world, by granting them as a selfish protection to people who seek them as a mere business proposition.

NATIONAL BANK CIRCULATION

Secretary of the Treasury Shaw, in his annual report, speaks of the bonds which will be issued to obtain money to build the isthmian canal as affording the basis for a large extension of national bank circulation. They will provide a basis for the increase in the volume of this currency which will naturally come from the increase in the country's business, and no doubt will be largely bought by national banks for this purpose, when issued.

On September 5 last, the national bank note circulation of the country reached $421,222,489, the highest point it has touched during the fifty years in which the national bank system has existed. The large increase showed the need of some extension of the basis of national bank circulation. The banks went into the market to purchase bonds to deposit in the treasury as security for more circulation. This increased demand caused the market price of the bonds to go up, and this in turn created a call for other national banks to retire their circulation, that they might obtain their deposited bonds and sell them—a transaction in which there was more profit than in the circulation thus withdrawn. This movement was very notable later in September.

The variation in the volume of the currency is thus seen to depend largely upon the price of United States bonds, instead of responding to the needs of the country's business, as it would were the bonds cheaper. As we are to build an isthmian canal, at a cost of many millions of dollars, bonds will necessarily have to be issued, and this issue will broaden the basis of national bank currency, and prove a benefit to business.

THE FIRST CONVICTIONS.

The first convictions have been reached in the postal fraud cases. McGregor and Upton, two former clerks, have been found guilty of conspiracy to defraud the government in the matter of the purchase of leather pouches for mail carriers. A motion was at once made for a new trial, thus giving evidence that the cases of all the accused will be fought to the bitter end, and punishment be reached only after every excuse for legal delay has been exhausted.

From the telegraphic reports, the arguments of the counsel for the defense remind one of the old-time advice of a western lawyer to his student: "If you have no case, abuse the opposing counsel." One of the lawyers made a most bitter attack on First Assistant Postmaster General Wynne, who was not on trial, and not directly involved in the case. Honest men are glad to note that this ebullition had no effect whatever on the jury, which brought in a verdict in three-quarters of an hour.

THE CUBAN LOTTERY.

The Cuban congress has passed a bill legalizing a state lottery, in order to add to the national revenue. The drawings are to be held thrice a month, and the government to receive a considerable percentage of the prizes before they are paid to the winners. The highest prize at the regular drawing is $100,000, but there will be special ones at which it will be fixed at the attractive figure of half a million. The whole affair will be run by the government, and the profits will be devoted to paying the debt due the "revolutionary" army.

The Cubans are very fond of the particular form of gambling called a lottery, and they look upon this action of their government as entirely praiseworthy. But it is going to make any amount of trouble in the United States. Many Americans are attracted by lotteries, and are eager to waste their money on them. The laws of the United States are extremely rigid against the circulation of lottery tickets by mail or express. However, there is no doubt the effort will be made to sell tickets secretly, despite the law. The best advice we can give people is to let the tickets severely alone, for you will be in danger of serious trouble with the government, if you try to evade the law.

INVADING PANAMA.

With the United States standing as guardian of Panama and Colon, the terminals of the Panama railroad, warning Columbia that no attack by sea will be permitted, the invasion of the new republic is a matter of extreme difficulty. The portion of Colombia next the isthmus, and the Colombian end of the isthmus itself, present almost insuperable natural obstacles to the movement of an army. The region is one of rugged mountains and precipitous valleys, overgrown with dense tropical forests; while along the shore are pestilential swamps. The only paths are mere mountain trails, along which the natives travel in single file.

To move an army of ten or twenty thousand men along these trails, with their artillery, ammuntion and supply trains, and to maintain communication along them with the base of supplies, is a thing declared impossible by the Panaminos. However, Colombia will make an attempt, in some way, to regain her lost sovereignty over the isthmus without doubt. Even with the attempt recognized as hopeless, the Spanish-American mind would not be satisfied without such a vindication of Colombian "honor." Already there are rumors of an expeditionary force current on the isthmus. They are probably born of the conviction that Colombia will make such an effort. We may look with certainty for a brush between Panama and Colombia before matters on the isthmus settle down.

BUTLER'S EPIDEMIC.

Butler, Pennsylvania, is giving the country an example of what a typhoid epidemic can do. Since the disease appeared, there have been about 1,200 cases; physicians and nurses are so overworked as to be on the verge of breaking down; a number of them have fallen victims to the disease; hospital accommodations are utterly inadequate, and deaths are numerous, there being some forty up to date—a large proportion.

The epidemic has utterly paralyzed the business and industries of the town, and is causing a heavy financial burden to the public. It is costing $5,000 per day to care for the patients who are without means, and the total cost of the epidemic will be not less than $100,000.

And all from criminal carlessness in the town's water supply! One of its sources is a small creek, which, it has been found, received the sewage of a dwelling on its banks outside the city, in which there was a case of typhoid fever. The lesson is a costly one to Butler, and should be heeded by every other city in the land. All those which take their water supply from running streams, are in danger of a similar experience; while the water of surface wells in a city is always unhealthful, and liable at any time to certain typhoid germs.

THE HOAR RESOLUTION.

Because Senator Hoar displayed a streak of narrow prejudice in the Philippine matter, it must not be assumed that he is hostile to the President's course in the Panama affairs. In the former, his "anti-imperialistic" ideas were probably an inheritance of the intense provincialism of New England—the same mental narrowness which led to the hostility of that section to the war of 1812. But the venerable Massachusetts senator, in introducing his resolution requesting the President to furnish the senate with all information bearing on the part played by the United States in the events in the isthmus offered it in a friendly spirit, not one of hostility. He said that President Roosevelt is desirous of an opportunity to place all the facts before the people of the United States, "in order to allay a feeling of suspicion, somewhat widespread, that this government had been concerned in the revolution at Panama." We doubt that the "suspicion" is particularly "widespread," however; but all the same, the President has nothing to conceal, and will probably accept the opportunity gladly to take the nation into his confidence.

A LACK OF PLUMS.

The Democratic representatives from Northern states are up in arms because so few of them have positions on the more important house committees. The criticism is not against Speaker Cannon, but against Williams of Mississippi, the Democratic leader on the floor of the house. In making up the new committees of the house, Speaker Cannon asked Mr. Williams to assign the Democratic members, and the Northern Democrats were compelled to take what the Southern leader gave them. The complaint is in fact an objection to the domination of the Democratic part by the South. Mr. Williams cheerfully undertook the task at the speaker's request, and if he did not act fairly toward the Northern members of his political faith, they must put the blame where it belongs.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK

Colombia's Army.

It seems true that a small force of Colombian troops has been landed under Generals Bustamente and Ortiz at Cape Tiburon, at the mouth of the Atrato river, with the object of cutting paths across the mountains to enable the Colombian troops to nivade Panama. The Atrato river is in Colombian territory, near the Panama line. It runs northward into the Gulf of Darien, which is an arm of the Caribbean sea. Of course, these troops are in Colombia, and nothing will be done until they cross the boundary into Panama.

Senator Morgan's Bile.

If the Senate had cared much for Senator Morgan's maundering about the new treaty with Panama it would have gone into executive session when he began to denounce the treaty in open session and abuse the minister of Panama in Washington. The Senate claims to be a part of the treaty-making power, and nearly related to the diplomatic branch of the government. But there is nothing diplomatic about Senator Morgan's railing in open session. His vehemence and lack or ordinary prudence and courtesy may be their own antidote; but his performance is undignified to the last degree.

The Isle of Pines.

A treaty has been negotiated with Cuba ceding to that republic sovereignty in the Isle of Pines. Though the treaty has been favorably reported to the Senate, a protest against its ratification is pending, and it may be sent back to the committee on foreign relations.

A protest comes from Americans who purchased property in the island under the belief that it was certain to be placed under the sovereignty of the United States. They do not object to the proposed cession, but they ask that the treaty be materially amended in their interest. They desire provisions for the maintenance of an American school, the opening of a port of entry, and the establishment of a land office at Bejucal, the capital of the island.

Gen. MacArthur's Remarks.

Every public man in this country who looks an inch beyond the end of his own nose is perfectly aware that there is a very strong likelihood of war between Germany and the United States in the not very remote future. Every one knows that both governments have that contingency constantly in view and are preparing themselves to meet it. And yet every time an officer of this government refers to this perfectly well-known fact there is as much fuss over it as if he had said something startling, unheard-of, outrageous. What if Major-General MacArthur did say that there "would be a war in the immediate future between Germany and the United States and that the principal scene of the fighting would be in the Pacific ocean with the Hawaiian islands as the objective point?" He said nothing at all extravagant, or unreasonable, and he said what he did say unofficially and in the course of private conversation, when he had a right to say whatever he pleased about the prospects of a war between the United States and Germany or any other subject of general interest.

Record Broken in Foreign Trade.

In some directions the year has furnished government statistics with record-breaking totals. The foreign commerce of the year was the largest in the history of the country, the aggregate amounting to $2,445,860,916, as against $1,714,066,116 in 1893, $1,547,020,316 in 1883 and $1,164,616,132 in 1873. The commerce with the non-contiguous territory of the country showed a gratifying increase during the year, and if the gold ore of domestic production received from Alaska be taken into account, the total would foot up over $100,000,000. In immigration also a record was made, the total being the largest in the country's history. In number of pieces the total coinage was greater than in any previous year, and the specie holdings of the banks reached on February 6 the maximum in the history of the system, viz., $417,572,146.37. A new record was also made in the receipt of all kinds of money for redemption and exchange, the amount paid for being $864,563,561, an increase of $141,228,315 over the preceding year.

The Winter Wheat.

The government report on winter wheat, published on Thursday, was bullish as to prices, indicating, as it did, that the seeded area is only about 32,000,000 acres, as against 34,070,000 acres planted last December, a decline of 6 per cent. What lent additional interest, however, was the fact that the condition on December 1 was only 88.6, as against the practically perfect condition of 99.7 in 1902, 86.7 in 1901 and a nine-year average of 92.7. Of the twelve leading winter wheat producing states or territories, only three, California, Nebraska and Pennsylvania, show conditions of 90 or better, and the highest showing, that made by California, is only 97, whereas a year ago six states were above 100 and only two were below 97. The leading winter wheat state, Kansas, is credited by the government with 6 per cent. decrease in area and a condition of 87. This is lower than the state agricultural department gives it. The area in rye is given at a decline of 2 per cent. from a year ago, which would make the acreage about 1,218,000 acres. This grain also shows a decline in condition from a year ago, being only 92.7, against 98.1 in 1902. It may be said that this report is a rather pessimistic one, and is not entirely in keeping with other estimates of area compiled earlier. That it has a strong bullish bearing upon prices cannot be denied, however. When the comparatively disappointing outturn from last year's sowing, which started with ideal conditions, is recalled, and the strength of wheat supplies, as shown in another column, is kept in mind, the reception given the present report by the bulls in wheat can be easily understood.

UNIQUE POLICE FORCE AT THE WORLD'S FAIR

Jefferson Guard Will Be Mustered Out After Seven Months of Active and Picturesque Service.

A guard corps is the safety valve of an international exposition. The better its discipline, the higher the dignity of the great spectacle.

The well remembered Columbian Guard at the White city of Chicago in 1893, set the style for succeeding expositions. At that time the detailing of army officers to command a civilian organization was an innovation.

The wisdom of these appointments was reflected by the admirable esprit de corps set by Colonel Edmund Rice. It proved that the training of a military man was needed to successfully direct arrangements for order and safety.

Since the Columbian exposition, no army officers have been detailed to perform the same duties at any world's fair, until the St. Louis exposition, the magnitude of which made the United States government an active partner in the enterprise.

More regular fighting men will command the Jefferson Guard at the Ivory city than were ever detailed to co-operate with the civil authorities of the country and it is not amiss to predict that the tone of the guard at St. Louis will be higher and more perfect than heretofore.

Colonel Edward Allison Godwin of the Ninth Cavalry is commandant of the Jefferson Guard. Second in command by reason of his rank is Major Andrew Goodrich Hammond of the Third Cavalry. When the guard is recruited to its full strength, which will probably be that of two regiments of infantry, or 2,400 men, many lieutenants of the regular army will be detailed to command the various companies.

At present, First Lieutenant Charles Brooks Clark of the Fifth Infantry and First Lieutenant George Howell Shields of the Twelfth Infantry are the only two officers of the line stationed at the exposition. Just now there are only 120 guards but the service must be increased about the first of the year to protect the increasing arrival of exhibits, many of which are already installed in the big palaces.

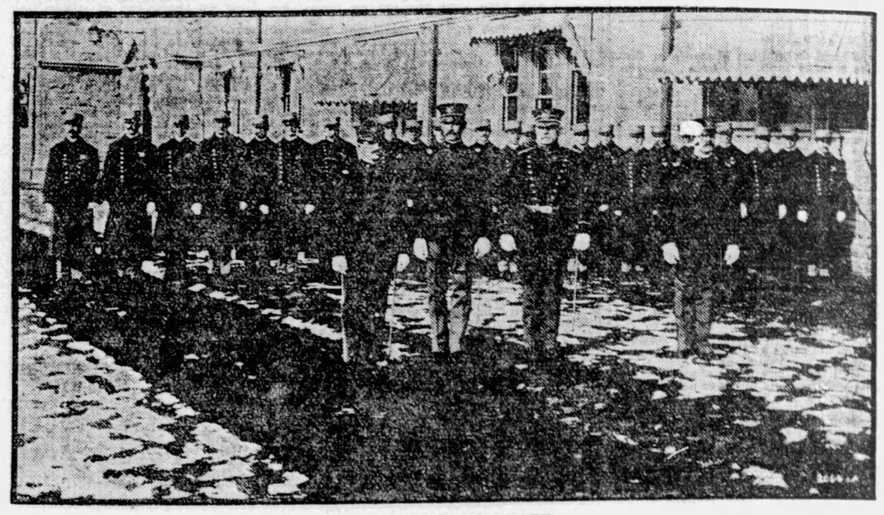
The army officers will wear the uniforms of their rank during the exposition, lending a military setting to the promenades, resplendent with visitors from every part of the world. The uniform and equipment of an exposition guard has always partaken of the military rather than the police type. In place of staves and batons wielded by the municipal police, short military swords are the side arms of the Jefferson guard.

The Jefferson Guard is domiciled in better quarters than at preceeding expositions. The barracks is a substantial new stone building, one of the halls of Washington university, which is a part of the exposition. Commandant Godwin and his aides have their headquarters in this structure.

Three reliefs divide the duties of the guardsmen. They are stationed constantly at the main entrance to the big stone Administration building; each exhibit palace is patrolled at all times; others have beats along the avenues and maintain order at the various entrances to the grounds.

Present day visitors to the Exposition find the guards perfect living encyclopedias of the wonders which are appearing every week. Every member of the corps is able to give information off hand. Their courtesy and the high grade of intelligence characteristic of this fine body of men, makes the use of guide books superfluous.

Khaki uniforms of yellow have been the distinguishing dress of the Guard since its organization. Over the slanting visor of the khaki cap appear the crimson letters, "Jefferson Guard" and the same authority is displayed on a silver badge over the left breast. For winter service the Guards wear a long military frock overcoat of bright continental blue. Gilt buttons make a double row down the front to the waist and crimson cording decorates the cuffs. When the exposition opens this service uniform will give place to a dress uniform of light blue, very elaborately corded in white, yellow and crimson, the exposition colors, when combined with the blue of the uniform.



THE JEFFERSON GUARD.

DR. COLLYER, AT 80, AN OPTIMIST

REV ROBERT COLLYER

New York, Dec. 12.—The Rev. Robert Collyer, pastor of the Church of the Messiah, Unitarian, declared on his eightieth birthday that he was firmly of the belief that the world is better than it has been, and that it is growing better every day.

At eighty Dr. Collyer is active, robust and alert.

"I have never been ill a single day in my life, nor have I ever eaten breakfast in bed. I attribute my good health to eating what I want, and not eating what I do not want—to normal living."

COTTON QUEEN IS TO BE MARRIED

MISS KATE M. GILES
PHOTO BY DE YOUNGE

New York, Dec. 12.—"Giles is to be married," is the persistent rumor which has been circulated in "the street" for a week, and brokers to whom this would mean a more terrible calamity just at this time than an earthquake or a cyclone, have been worried in consequence.

Six weeks ago everybody was asking: "Who is Giles?" But since December 5, when Giles' word turned the tide of the cotton market and increased cotton value some $5,000,000, every one on the street knows that Giles is the "Cotton Queen." She is, in other words, a cotton statistician, upon whose estimates of the cotton crop many firms depend.

The lucky man who won the heart of the cotton queen, is, is was said, a young man in the employ of a firm of commission merchants in the Cotton Exchange building.

Current Events.

Kaiser Wilhelm returns unexpectedly to Berlin and is greeted with unusual cheers by the populace.

Experiments made in London with radium as a cancer cure leadt the doctors to hope for ultimate success.

France is said to enter a new epoch as the result of the ties binding her to Russia, England and Italy.

Pope intends to play active part in international affairs and is studying conditions in different countries.

Railway statistics are analyzed by Slason Thompson, who finds travel was safer in the year ending June 30, 1903, than in the preceding year.

Mrs. Margaret Rhinelander, adjudged insane by the New York supreme court, makes a scene in the police court when she is taken to the asylum.

Forthcoming visit of William Jennings Bryan and W. R. Hearst to southern Indiana is likely to widen the breach between the Democratic factions.

Senator Foster, of Louisiana, declares in a speech in the senate that the sugar trust is sponsor for the Cuban reciprocity bill. He pleads for his state.

German steamship companies stop a loophole through which Russian emigrants to the United States reached competing lines and decreased their profits.

Woman of Rising Sun, Ind., is implicated in the murder of Elizabeth Gillespie by the wife of a baker, who repeated threats to blind the victim with vitrol.

Countess d'Ivry is killed in a collision while dressed as a man. It is said she donned male attire to avoid attracting notice by her horsemanship.

Prof. George A. Coe, of Northwestern university, declares that the people of the present day know the Bible better than did the prophets and apostles.

Canada, it is declared, never will undertake the establishment of a navy, but purposes to establish training stations for seamen along the lake coast.

Report of Superintendent of Public Instruction Barrett, of Iowa, shows a decrease of 46,384 in number of children of school age in the state since 1900.

Campaign for Wisconsin governorship forms a complex situation which baffles political prophets. Governor La Follette proves a sphinx and much depends on his possible candidacy.

Judge Holdom fines Franklin Union of Press Feeders $1,000 for violation of the typothetae injunction, and declares the law will not tolerate the use of violence in prosecuting strikes.

Sixty-two New York builders' organizations bolt the new National Contractors' association, charging that a clause in the constitution makes New York an open field for western competition.

Plans to end the Connaught hostility by marrying the crown prince to Princess Margaret of Connaught are credited to the kaiser. The Connaughts and the crown prince oppose the match.

New York Herald symposium of sentiment among Republicans all over the country shows that President Roosevelt is certain to be nominated and that Senator Hanna is not regarded a candidate.

Secretary Cortelyou, in his annual report, says the new department of commerce and labor has no authority to settle disputes between employer and employe.

Dun's weekly review of trade says that business in all seasonable lines makes a favorable comparison with the corresponding period of the previous year.

More elastic currency and reorganization of revenue service urged by Secretary of Treasury Shaw in annual report; national bank system in good condition.

John A. Dowie's control over Zion City restored and receivers discharged by court; creditors agreed to accept 10 per cent cash in 90 days; balance in one year.

News is received at Colon of several expeditions started by Colombia against Panama and recalled later. The junta purposes to establish a constitutional government in February.

Charges that William J. Bryan manufactured the famous letters giving him $50,000 of Philo Bennett's estate and induced Bennett to sign them are made in court in New Haven, Conn., by Mrs. Bennett.

Bill introduced in house by Cooper (Wis.) giving interstate commerce commission needed power to fix rates till courts can act; $30 "horse feed" payment asked for rural carriers.

Senator Hanna will request the senate committee on military affairs to subpoena General Wood to answer charges.

Great Britain is building a new harbor at Gibraltar, as modern long range artillery makes the old port not necessarily impregnable.

Russia has announced an increase of 25 to 100 per cent in the tariff on iron and steel manufactures and that agricultural implements will be admitted free.

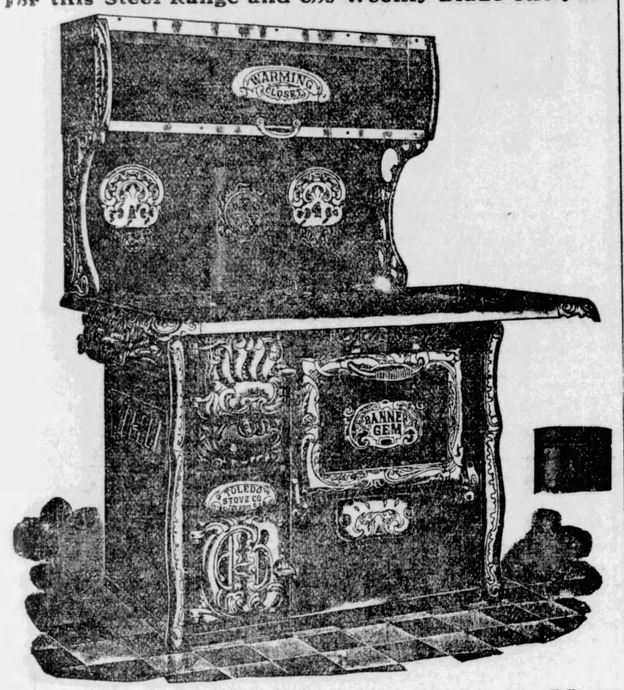
James J. Hill says it is impossible for any board to establish railroad tariffs which would be just to all parts of the country, as is proposed by a bill just introduced in congress. He says, further, that rates must be advanced or wages and the price of materials reduced.

The Blade's New, Handsome, High Grade

Steel Range

$26.85 $26.85 $26.85

For this Steel Range and The Weekly Blade one year



A solid, substantial, well-built STEEL RANGE at half the former retail price. Fully warranted for ten years. Top cooking surface, 30 in. wide, 52 in. long. Oven is large and roomy; size 14 in. high, 18 in. wide, 21 in. deep. Six 8 or 9 in. lids.

DESCRIPTION.—It is a well established fact, and conceded by the public in general, that cast iron cook stoves and ranges are things of the past and are superseded by WROUGHT STEEL RANGES on account of their great durability, superior baking and cooking qualities, and economy in the consumption of fuel. The indestructibility of wrought steel, as compared with cast iron, at once establishes its superiority for cooking ranges.

MATERIAL.—The cold rolled steel plate used in the construction of "THE BLADE" RANGE has many advantages. Malleable Steel Plate is a high grade of metal in its purest state, rolled into plates with high pressure that not only insures a uniform thickness, but increases its density by compressing more closely its texture, making it permanently invincible to the acids produced by the different stages of combustion.

ANOTHER POINT.—Another strong recommendation in favor of Steel Plate is its excellence as a conductor of heat, securing equal expansion and contraction of all parts subjected to the different degrees of heat, while it does not blister or scale, and owing to its density and fineness of grain, is not affected by rust.

CONSTRUCTION.—The bodies and ovens of "THE BLADE" RANGE are made of the highest grade of cold rolled malleable steel, thoroughly patent leveled, having an even and smooth surface and free from scale. The ovens are closely boiler riveted to the bodies of the Ranges, making perfectly tight joints, proof against ashes, dust and soot. The bottoms of the ovens are securely braced with heavy bars of iron, which are riveted to the bottom of ovens with counter-sunk head-rivets, thus absolutely preventing their warping or buckling. Size of oven, 14 inches high, 18 inches wide, 21 inches deep.

FIRE BOX.—The fire box of "THE BLADE" RANGE has extra heavy sectional linings, and is mounted with a duplex grate, burns either wood, coal or coke for fuel—a good feature.

ASBESTOS LINED FLUES.—The flues and end of the fire box are asbestos lined. Asbestos being a fire-proof material, indestructible and a non-conductor, it prevents the heat radiating into the room and effectually confines it within the range, against the oven, which tends to great economy in the consumption of fuel, and insures great durability of the range.

TOP WARMING CLOSET.—The top warming closet of "THE BLADE" RANGE is novel and nicely japanned, and has revolving doors, swings up under the top of the closet out of the way, taking up no space and permitting the whole of the interior of the closet to be exposed while placing in food to be warmed.

The range weighs 500 lbs. Each range is carefully wrapped with packing paper and crated. The high closet is crated separately, making the shipment consist of two crates. Orders will be promptly filled.

Remit by New York draft, express money order or postoffice order. Give shipping directions plainly. Address all orders to THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

This range with white enamel reservoir for only $29.85.

Keep Warm With The Blade's

Gem Oak Heater

The best all-around heater on the market. The cheapest. Our price..... $11.00

Stands five feet high.

The GEM OAK is full standard size, handsomely ornamented, is superior in material, workmanship and operation to any other heating stove you can buy. Description:

Fret work swing top; the panels on the doors fret work and nickeled; has a large, ornamental fire-pot ring, with side foot rail suspended from the fire-pot ring, made in three sections, and is interchangeable; shaker-draw center grate for coal, double section; cut-off grate for wood; steel nickel plated top ring; nickel plated knobs and foot rails, with a large wired and bailed ash-pan; shaker and lifter. The body is made out of 16-gauge black planished steel, made especially for Oak stoves.

This stove will give you great satisfaction and excellent service.

These stoves are carefully crated and shipped by freight. Purchaser pays freight on receipt of goods.

If you need a heating stove, this is the one for you to buy.

Our Price for this Gem Oak Heater and the Weekly Blade one year is only..... $1

Address your orders to THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

Cut Paper Patterns.

These patterns will be mailed to any address at only 10 cents each. In ordering, address your letter, "Pattern Department, The Blade, Toledo, Ohio." Inclose 10 cents in silver for each pattern ordered. Do not send stamps—you can obtain other funds. Write very plainly the NUMBER and the NAME of each pattern, as it appears under the cut, and also the BUST MEASURE you wish.

Fancy Waist--High or Low Neck- No. 9179, and Seven-Gored Skirt, With Gathered Flounce, No 8913.

In this charming costume, black chiffon velvet and white broche mousseline are cleverly combined.

The waist is mounted on a glove-fitted featherboned lining of white taffeta, which fastens in the center back and is cut out at the neck in a point back and front.

The back is plain across the shoulders and has slight gathers at the waist. Full fronts are gathered and applied at a pointed yoke depth, blousing stylishly over a soft belt of black velvet. A pointed collar completes the decolletage and extends far over the shoulders, giving them the desired width and drop. The edge of the collar is finished with fine silk fringe.

Full puff sleeves are gathered and attached to the lower edge of short fitted caps, the joining being concealed by a row of fringe. The sleeves are very wide at the wrists, where they are attached to deep cuffs.

The waist may be made high neck and finished with a standing collar if so desired, the pattern providing the proper shaping for these portions.

The upper part of the shirt is shaped with seven gores fitted smoothly around the waist and hips without darts. It closes invisibly at the center back in habit effect. The lower edge of each gore is cut away in a deep point. These points are quite long in front and graduate toward the back. They are finished with fringe.

A full flounce is gathered at the upper edge and attached to the gored portion

9179—Ladies' Fancy Waist.
8913—Ladies' Skirt.

Waist, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust. Skirt, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inch waist.

forming the lower part of the skirt. It falls in long, graceful folds to the floor, sweeping in a slight train at the back.

The velvet trimming is all elaborately embroidered in silver threads. A fine design is worked in the same threads at the bottom of the flounce.

Costumes in this mode are made of crepe de Chine, silk muslin, soft silks, satins, chiffon or some of the gauzy fabrics manufactured expressly for evening wear.

To make the waist in the medium size will require 2¼ yards of material 44 inches wide, with three-fourths yard of velvet and five-eighths yard of lace. The pattern, No. 9179, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40-inch bust measure.

To make the skirt in the medium size will require 5½ yards of material 44 inches wide. The pattern, No. 8913, is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32-inch waist measure.

Girls' Dress, No. 9180.

Some of the light shades of tan look very well on little folks and make a pleasing change from the regulation blue and red frocks.

A pretty style is shown here made of biscuit Venetian with white lace and marine blue velvet for trimming. The waist is made over an open fitted body lining that closes in the center back, and is faced with velvet to a round yoke depth.

Full front and backs are gathered at the upper edge and arranged on the lining to outline the yoke, blousing well all around.

A pointed bertha collar of white lace edges the yoke and extends over the shoulders in a becoming manner. A shallow lace collar completes the neck.

The sleeves are fitted closely to the upper arm and are quite wide at the lower edge, where the fulness is arranged on velvet cuffs. The sleeves have a narrow front facing, with a tuck on the edge which covers the seam.

A stylish little five-gored skirt is fitted smoothly around the waist and hips, closing invisibly at the center back under two inverted plaits. Extensions added on the front edge of the side and back gores are arranged in forward-turning plaits that are flatly pressed but flare stylishly at the lower edge. The skirt is elaborately trimmed with bands of lace.

Dresses in this style may be made of granite cloth, covert, cashmere, Henrietta serge and flannel, with velvet, silk or

9180—Girls' Dress.
6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

lace for trimming. The bertha collar may be of self-fabric and trimmed with braid or ribbon, if preferred.

To make the dress for a girl of 8 years will require 2¼ yards of material 36 inches wide, with three-eighths yard of velvet and one-half yard of lace. The dress, No. 9180, is cut in sizes for girls of 6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

BE SURE to give both the number and the name of the pattern, and, the bust measure also.

Girls' Coat, No. 9175.

Dark shades of gray are too old for children, but some of the new nickel and oyster grays are light and make up very attractively in garments for little girls.

The coat shown here is developed in oyster zibeline and is not trimmed except for the many rows of machine stitching and nickel buttons used to finish it.

The adjustment is made with shoulder and underarm seams. Box plaits extend from shoulder to hem, back and front. They are stitched as far down as the belt and pressed below that point, the fulness falling in plaited folds and providing additional width around the bottom.

9175—Girl's Coat.
6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

A narrow belt draws the coat in close at the back and has a fashionable dip in front, where it fastens with a small nickel buckle. The closing is made in single-breasted style.

The cape is fitted with a shoulder seam in order to secure a close adjustment. It is pointed in the back and included in the neck seam with a plain standing collar.

Fancy sleeves are shaped with narrow upper and under portions that are extended to form wristbands at the back. The full part of the sleeve is gathered and arranged on this band, drooping well at the back.

Coats in this style are made of broadcloth, velvet, corduroy or cloaking, and finished in strictly tailor style or trimmed with lace and chiffon applique.

To make the coat for a girl of 8 years will require 3½ yards of material 44 inches wide. The pattern, No. 9175, is cut in sizes for girls of 6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

Five-Gored Skirt, Plaited Flounce, No. 9174.

More than half of the street suits for winter are made with skirts that either clear the ground or just touch all around, but there is a noticeable absence of trains. Women are quick to appreciate the comfort derived from wearing these skirts, which do not have to be lifted all the time.

A charming model suitable for heavy fabrics is shown here, developed in metal-gray camel's hair. The upper part is shaped with five well-proportioned gores fitted smoothly around the waist and hips without darts.

It closes invisibly at the center back under two inverted plaits that are flatly pressed to give the effect of a habit back.

9174—Ladies' Five Gored Skirt.
22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inch waist

This portion of the skirt may be lined. It is cut off below the knee and the flounce applied.

The flounce is arranged in deep, forward-turning plaits, which may be taped half way down, or only pressed and permitted to flare smartly when the wearer walks. A stitched band of the cloth is applied to conceal the joining.

Petticoats worn beneath these skirts are provided with one or two very full flounces that keep the plaiting out around the bottom, or else when the skirt is made of medium-weight material a flounce of silk is attached to the skirt at the same time as the plaiting.

The mode may be developed in tweed, zibeline, mohair or velveteen. Some skirts have fancy braid at the top of the flounce, also on the hem, but the preference is for tailored effects.

To make the skirt in the medium size will require 4 yards of material 44 inches wide. The pattern, No. 9174, is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32-inch waist measure.

Girls' Dress, No. 9177.

Pale blue polka dot barege is here stylishly trimmed with blue peau de soie and white lace.

The foundation is a fitted body lining

9177—Girl's Dress.
6, 8, 10 and 12 years

that closes in the center back and is faced with lace to a scalloped yoke depth. The back is plain across the shoulders and blouses at the belt.

Full fronts are gathered and arranged on the lining at a scalloped yoke depth. They blouse stylishly over a soft belt of black velvet. The plastron is broad on the shoulders and tapers toward the waist. It forms a sailor collar in the back and is cut out to show the lace yoke. The upper edges are finished with embroidery.

A plain lace collar completes the neck. Narrow upper and under portions in the sleeves are extended at the wrist to form narrow wristbands. The full part is gathered at the lower edge and attached to the wristband, drooping well at the back.

The skirt has a narrow panel in front and is box plaited from the sides of the panel to the center back, where the closing is made invisibly beneath the plaits. The skirt is attached to the waist, the joining being concealed by a soft belt of velvet.

Tapes fasten the plaits securely part way down, but below the tapes the skirt flares smartly. Dresses in this style are made of albatross, veiling, Lansdowne, cashmere or Henrietta, and attractively trimmed. In some dressy little frocks for dancing school the yokes are transparent.

To make the dress for a child of 8 years will require 3⅝ yards of material 36 inches wide, with ½ yard for trimming, and ⅝ yard of lace. The attern, No. 9177, is cut in sies for girls of 6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

Fancy Waist, No. 9178.

The vogue of long, drooping shoulders still continues, but the effect is produced with drop yokes and collars oftener than with the long shoulder seam with the line of the sleeve coming two or three inches down on the arm.

A charming mode is shown here developed in pale gray peau de sole, with gray lace and narrow velvet ribbon for trimming. The back is plain across the shoulders and has slight gathers at the belt.

Three narrow box plaits in front are stitched down part way and provide becoming fulness over the bust, blousing a little at the waist. The drop yoke is fitted

9178—Ladies' Fancy Waist.
32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust

closely with shoulder seams and forms a cap on the sleeves. It is extended to the waist line in front, tapering toward the lower edge. The waist fastens invisibly at the center front.

A transparent lace collar completes the neck and has a tab in front. It is edged with velvet ribbon. Box plaits in the one-piece sleeves are stitched flatly from shoulder to elbow. The puff formed by the fulness below that point is gathered and attached to a transparent lace cuff made to match the collar. The sleeves droop stylishly at the back.

An elaborate design is embroidered in silver threads on the yoke and lower part of sleeves. Waists in this style are made of taffeta, crepe de chine, albatross, nun's veiling or French flannel, and may have a yoke of contrasting material if so desired.

To make the waist in the medium size will require 3¼ yards of material 36 inches wide, with ½ yard for trimming. The pattern, No. 9178, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40-inch bust measure.

Address as follows, including the price of the pattern ordered:

PATTERN DEPARTMENT,
THE BLADE, TOLEDO OHIO.

FIRST MINISTER

Of the United States to the Republic of Panama.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The President has selected W. I. Buchanan, of Ohio, to be the first United States minister to Panama.

Mr. Buchanan's selection was brought about by a desire on the part of the President to secure temporarily, at least, and during the crystalization of the relations between the United States and Panama, the services of a trained and experienced diplomatic representative, having special reference to his knowledge of the Latin-American races. By reason of long service as United States minister to the Argentine Republic, Mr. Buchanan fills that description in the estimation of the state department. It is understood that his assumption of duties is not to be permanent, for he sacrifices large business interests to undertake the work.

The new minister was originally from Ohio and represented the state as an agriculturist commissioner at the World's Fair at Chicago. He was appointed by President Cleveland United States minister to Buenos Ayres. His record at that point was so satisfactory that President McKinley continued him at his post for several years after his accession to office.

Next Mr. Buchanan became secretary of the Pan-American exposition at Buffalo, and since the close of that enterprise he has been engaged in private business. He also has been looking after certain interests of the St. Louis exposition.

DESPERADOES DOWN EAST

Camden, N. J., Dec. 12.—Five masked desperadoes appeared in Pavonia, in the eastern section of this city, at about midnight and after holding up a bridge tender and a watchman blew open the safe in the Pennsylvania railroad station at Pavonia, escaping after a running duel with two policemen. The station was wrecked by the force of the dynamite explosion. The robbers secured about $10 from the safe.

They first appeared at the shanty occupied by Oscar Till, tender of the State street bridge across Cooper's creek. While two of the bandits guarded Till with drawn revolvers, the remaining three ransacked his hut and destroyed most of his clothing and effects, but got nothing. Threatening Till with death if he gave an alarm they left him and meeting Frank Eppler, the bridge man, they held him up and took his revolver and two dollars.

The robbers then hastened to the station, about a half mile distant, and after forcing an entrance blew the safe with dynamite. The detonation was heard by Ralph Haines, a tower man, who summoned Policemen Schmidt and Fell. They were unable to capture the desperadoes, however, although they gave chase for a considerable distance, discharging their revolvers after the fugitives as they ran. The shots were returned by the outlaws, who escaped into the fields.

Frederick Stackhouse, assistant station master at Pavonia, said the safe contained about $10.

THE SMOOT CASE.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The senate committee on privileges and election met today to outline a policy to be pursued in investigating the protests filed against Senator Reed Smoot being permitted to retain his seat and decided that before taking further action in the matter Senator Smoot should be given opportunity to make reply to the charges.

Senator Burrows, chairman of the committee, was instructed to notify Mr. Smoot of the decision of the committee and to request that whatever reply he may desire to make shall be in writing.

Casey's Old Whiskies,
Wines, Gins and Brandies

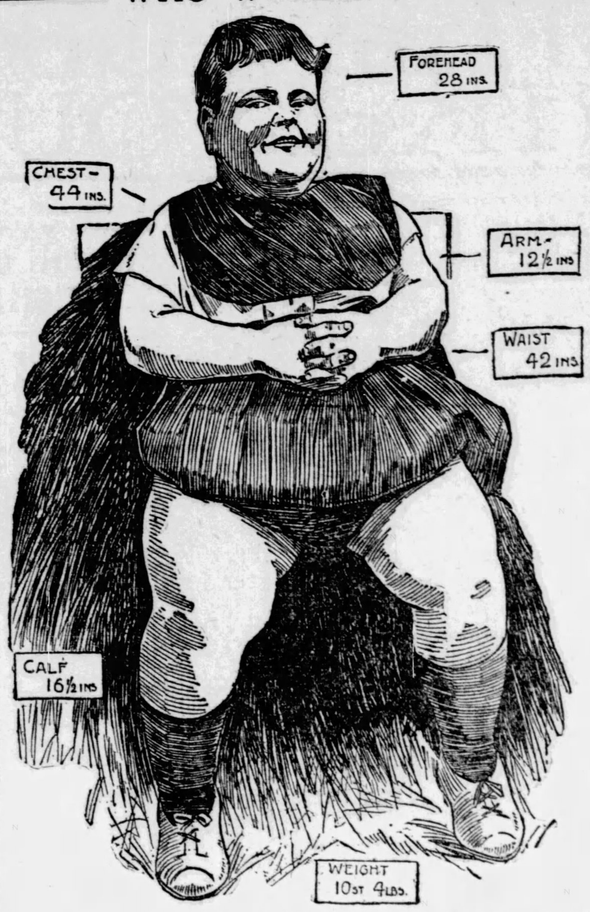
For medical and family uses are the purest and best.

Old Maryland Rye $2.60 per gallon.

Write for Price List.

James Casey, 504 Adams St., Toledo, O.

FIVE-YEAR-OLD BOY WHO WEIGHS 144 POUNDS



The London school board has been beaten by the fat boy of Peckham.

The fat boy of Peckham is a child of five, who lives with his parents, working people, at Colegrove road, midway between Rye lane and the Old Kent road.

He is about 4 feet in height, with a chest measurement of forty-four inches, and a weight of 144 pounds. He has enormous strength for his age, and altogether is the pride of Peckham. He is of school age, and the school board has been concerning itself about his education.

After elaborate inquiries and an examination by a doctor it has been decided that he is too big and too strong to go to school. A correspondent in a letter which appeared in yesterday's Times, calls attention to this month's agenda of the special schools sub-committee, in which there appears the report of the doctor who examined the child.

In the course of his remarks he says: "This child is of abnormal development physically. The account given of his weight (ten stone) is quite true. The increase in weight is due not only to fat but to muscular development as well, since the child can easily lift an ordinary adult. . . . Mentally he seems in some ways precocious; he is quite educable. . . . Owing to his size and habits I do not think it is possible to place him in any school. It is obvious he cannot attend an ordinary infants' department; not only would his extraordinary appearance create disturbance, but no desk would hold him, and his enormous strength would be dangerous to the other children.

"If taken to a physically defective centre he would take up the room of three or four children in the ambulance, even if he could be roused and dressed in time, which from the history of the case I should think improbable. I therefore suggest he be exempt from school attendance."

The committee admit their defeat in the terse sentence "Agreed to exempt from attendance."

"Jack," as the boy is known in the neighborhood, is himself happily unconcerned about his education. During the day he is generally to be found in or near a beerhouse in Willowbrook road, where in the doctor's words, "He earns his dinner by acting as an advertisement."

In brain he is a quick-witted, intelligent child; in body he seems a preposterous exaggeration. He has the breadth of shoulder of a big man, thighs and calves which a navvy might be proud of, and above all the healthy open face of a gigantic baby.

He runs up and down the road to the canal bridge with a cheerful waddle, and shows an activity which puts to shame these local prophets who foretold that he would be paralyzed in his lower limbs. He will lift a 50lb. weight with one hand to show you his bulk is not made up with fat alone, and despite his lack of education he knows the difference between sixpence and a shilling.

He is a favorite with all who know him, and the Peckham policemen and omnibus drivers are never tired of talking of him.—London Mail.

COTTON EXPORTS.

Marked Reduction in the Quantity of Goods Sent Out.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The marked reduction in the export of cotton goods from the United States to China in 1903, compared especially with 1902, has been the occasion of considerable anxiety and inquiry both on the part of manufacturers and those generally interested in the development of the foreign commerce of the United States. A statement recently issued by the department of commerce and labor, through its bureau of statistics, shows that in the ten months ending with October, 1903, the value of all exports from the United States to China was $13,325,818, against $20,090,769 in the corresponding months of 1902, and $15,516,529 in the corresponding months of 1901. An examination of the details of our exports to China shows that this reduction is almost exclusively in cotton goods. The total value of exports of cotton cloth to China from the United States in the ten months ending with October, 1903, was $8,516,693, against $14,633,570 in the corresponding months of 1902, and $8,585,591 in the corresponding months of 1901; while of other cotton goods, our exports to China in the ten months of 1903 were $26,305, against $51,100 in the corresponding months of 1902, and $122,886 in the corresponding months of 1901.

An examination as to the cause of this reduction indicates that the falling off is due to a general reduction in the imports of cotton goods into China, rather than from any reduction in the popularity or relative share which the cotton manufactures of the United States have in the total imports into China. While the exports of cotton goods from the United States to China do show a large falling off during this period, this is also the experience of other countries supplying China with her importations of cotton goods.

In the Chinese importations of sheetings, drills, and jeans American goods form an important part. Imports of American sheetings into China amounted to 630,947 pieces in the first three months of 1903, against 949,940 pieces in the same month of 1902; American drills amounted to 280,487 pieces, against 357,120 pieces in the corresponding months of the preceding year; and American jeans, 63,760 pieces, against 36,000 in the same months of the preceding year.

A further examination of the details of these figures shows that the reduction in the importation of American goods into China is much less in quantity and in proportion than in those from the United Kingdom.

The general reduction in the importation of cotton goods into China is apparently due, in part, at least, if not in whole, to the unusually large imports of this character in 1902. The total value of cotton goods imported into China in 1902 was $80,353,545, against $71,749,439 in 1901, and $56,704,770 in 1900.

Russia and the Message.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 12.—The comment here thus far on President Roosevelt's message to congress has been confined to the semi-official St. Petersburg Journal. The tone is friendly. The paper notes particularly that the President's commendation of the priciple of arbitration goes hand in hand with his recommendation for an increase in the strength in the navy, and deduces from the message that the United States hereafter will play a larger part in the world's affairs.

A NAVAL HERO.

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 9.—Naval tugs have not succeeded in pulling the submarine torpedo boat Moccasin off the beach at Currituck. The vessel is high on the beach.

After the navy department exhausted its own resources, wrecking companies

PATRICK DEERY

were asked to save the vessel, and tugs are now at work.

Boatswain Deery, who swam one hundred yards through a raging sea and attached a hauser to the Adder, is the hero of the hour here. His act undoubtedly saved the Adder from being wrecked, and all who witnessed the exploit declare it was a brave deed.

Three professional beggars who operated in Wall street and had a long list of wealthy victims are arrested in New York. Two of them are sent to the island and the third is released on a promise to go to work.

ABOUT FEAR

Often Comes From Lack of Right Food.

Napoleon said that the best fed soldiers were his best soldiers, for fear and nervousness come quickly when the stomach is not nourished. Nervous fear is a sure sign that the body is not supplied with the right food.

A Connecticut lady says: "For many years I had been a sufferer from indigestion and heart trouble and in almost constant fear of sudden death, the most acute suffering possible. Dieting brought on weakness, emaciation and nervous exhaustion and I was a complete wreck physically and almost a wreck mentally.

"I tried many foods but could not avoid the terrible nausea followed by vomiting that came after eating until I tried Grape-Nuts. This food agreed with my palate and stomach from the start. This was about a year ago. Steadily and surely a change from sickness to health came until now I have no symptoms of dyspepsia and can walk 10 miles a day without being greatly fatigued. I have not taken a drop of medicine since I began the use of Grape-Nuts and people say I look many years younger than I really am.

"My poor old sick body has been made over and I feel as though my head has been too. Life is worth living now and I expect to enjoy it for many years to come if I can keep away from bad foods and have Grape-Nuts." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

There's a reason.

Look in each package for a copy of the famous little book, "The Road to Wellville."

SUPREME ELECTRIC BELT FREE

IT IS YOURS

for the asking without one cent of cost.

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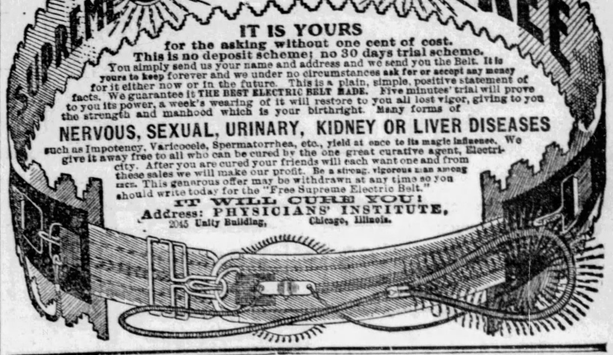

CHICAGO THE PLACE.

National Republican Convention There on June 21.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Chicago has been selected as the place for holding the next national Republican convention.

The vote was as follows: Chicago, 43; Pittsburg, 7; St. Louis, 1.

The committee fixed June 21, at 12 o'clock, as the time for the meeting of the convention.

The offers made by the different cities was $40,000 by St. Louis, $60,000 by Chicago and $100,000 by Pittsburg. After some discussion the Chicago proposition was raised by Committeeman Stewart to $75,000, he guaranteeing that Chicago would contribute that amount to pay the expenses of the assembling of the convention in that city.

The committee on arrangements for the convention are: Senator N. B. Scott, of West Virginia, chairman; Senator Hanna, Postmaster General Payne, Harry S. New, of Indiana, and R. B. Schneider, of Nebraska.

At 1:40 p. m. the committee adjourned to meet in Chicago at the call of the chairman.

It was 10:20 o'clock when Chairman Hanna called the committee to order today and announced that there were two Porto Ricans present representing the Republican party of that island. He said they would be given a hearing.

Communications were read by Secretary Heath from the Federal and Republican parties of Porto Rico, both claiming representation in the committee.

Chairman Hanna said that further consideration of the matter would be had in executive session.

The question of selecting a city in which to hold the convention was then taken up. S. R. Raymond, of Chicago, was recognized to speak in behalf of that city. He said Chicago had not secured the last convention but meant business this time. It would be 16 years since Chicago had had a convention, and it was about time for the Republicans to return to the city which was naturally located for holding conventions. He referred to the auditorium as perfectly adapted for convention purposes.

"It is supplied with wires, pneumatic tubes and other apparatus which I don't understand," he remarked. The accoustic qualities were such, he said, that even Chairman Hanna had made a speech there to which all had remained to the end. James J. Sheridan, of the Hamilton club, said that if the convention went to Chicago the Hamilton club would show the Republican party its good club work in a natural Democratic field. George R. Peck advocated Chicago as being geographically well situated for the convention.

"June," he said, "is always a cool, nice, salubrious month in Chicago. There was no city except New York which had as many well equipped hotels as Chicago," he said.

R. C. Kerens, member of the committee from Missouri, announced that St. Louis was desirous of getting the convention.

Walter B. Stevens, secretary of the Louisiana purchase expedition, made an address devoted almost wholly to the exhibition. Mr. Stevens urged the location of the convention in St. Louis from a political standpoint.

Senator Penrose responded to the call of Pennsylvania in behalf of Pittsburg. "They are here with the entrance fee," he declared, "and they make no disguise about it. It is $100,000 and if that is not enough they are willing to make it $500,000."

Chairman Hanna remarked after the applause had subsided:

"Any more like that?"

"Any more like that?"

He then announced that the committee would drop the sentimental features of the argument and turn to the unsentimental.

"We will be glad to receive sealed proposals of what the cities propose to do when we go into executive session," he said.

Mr. New, of Indiana, then presented resolutions of regret upon the death of members of the committee, which were adopted. On motion of Senator Penrose a resolution was adopted expressing the sense of the committee in favor of a fitting celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the birth of the Republican party to be held at Norristown, Pa., next year.

Senator Scott, of West Virginia, moved an executive session of the committee to ballot on time and place to hold the convention and at 11:40 the doors were closed and this order of business taken up.

When the committee went into executive session it took up the matter of the representation of Porto Rico and after discussing it for an hour referred it to a committee. The protest against John Capers as a member of the committee from South Carolina was laid on the table. The committee then cosnidered the question of location of the convention, and decision was arrived at quickly.

THE FIRST SENTENCES.

Baltimore, Dec. 12.—Columbus Ellsworth Upton and Charles McGregor, former clerks in the postoffice department at Washington, who were found guilty of postal frauds on Thursday last, were sentenced today by Judge Morris to serve two years in the Maryland penitentiary and to pay a fine of $1,000 each. The counsel for both defendants gave notice of appeal.

The specific offense charged against Upton and McGregor was conspiracy with Charles E. Smith, a leather merchant of Baltimore, to defraud the government on contract for leather pouches. These pouches, which cost only 35 cents each, were furnished to the government for 90 cents. Upton and McGregor were convicted on testimony given by Smith.

CHURCH OF THE LATERAN

Rome, Dec. 12.—The pope has expressed his satisfaction to Cardinal Satolli at the work, now in progress, of restoring the basilica of St. John Lateran, and especially the roof, which threatened to fall in. The late Leo XIII had already given a sum of money for the church's restoration, but it being insufficient he interested the Franciscans in the matter and they made a quest throughout the world. Pope Leo requested the Franciscans to engage in this work because of the legend, painted by Giotto, according to which St. Francis of Assisi on one of his visits saw the Lateran church falling and the saint, by order of Christ, hastening to uphold the walls.

The Ban Removed.

Kingston, Ja., Dec. 12.—Advices from Cartagena say that the Colombian authorities have removed the shipping ban against the republic of Panama. Vessels clearing here for Colon will get clearance papers there for Colombian ports.

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CHILI'S LAND GRAB.

She Annexes Two Provinces Belonging to Peru.

Valparaiso, Chile, Dec. 9.—A great sensation has been caused by the rumor that the minister of the interior presented to the chamber of deputies Monday a message asking for the annexation of Tacna and Arica provinces.

The session of the chamber was secret and it has been difficult to get at the true facts. But the latest information of a reliable nature is that the plan of the minister of the interior is to establish in the two provinces the same civil administrative methods as in Chile and put an end to the difficulties arising from the special system now carried on there. The fact that it was the minister of the interior who formulated the plan tends to confirm the truth of the last information because if the project would in any way interfere with Peruvian interests it would have been submitted by the minister of foreign affairs instead of the minister of the interior.

The Tacna-Arica question has been the bone of contention between Chile and Peru ever since the signing of the treaty of peace between the two countries after Chile's victorious war. A treaty was ratified by the National legislatures of both republics on March 28, 1884, whereby the two valuable provinces were to be in the possession of Chile subject to Chilean laws and authority for ten years. At the end of that period a plebiscitum was to be taken by the citizens of the two provinces to decide whether the territories would remain under the dominion of Chile or continue to form part of Peru. It was stipulated that one of the two countries to which the provinces were annexed should pay to the other 10,000,000 Chilean silver dollars. The term of this convention, called the treaty of Ancon, have never been executed owing to disagreements.

ZION CITY AFFAIRS.

Chicago, Dec. 9.—Control of all the property at Zion City and of the Zion bank in Michigan avenue reverted at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon to John Alexander Dowie, from whom it was taken just one week ago by the order of Judge Kohlsaat appointing Fred M. Blount and Albert D. Currier receivers in bankruptcy for the benefit of creditors.

The return of this property to Dowie was agreed to at an open session of the United States district court. Dowie himself was present, as were the representatives of the principal creditors and the receivers. When Judge Kohlsaat heard no objection to the entry of the order he put his signature to the paper which discharged Messrs. Blount and Currier from further control of any of the property or rights of the alleged bankrupt.

While the receivers have been relieved from further duties at Zion City, the bankruptcy proceedings are still maintained. It is likely, however, that these will be dismissed in a day or two, or as soon as the creditors' committee appointed Monday has an opportunity to report on the advisability of accepting Dowie's offer of settlement. This provides for payment of all merchandise accounts within one year and the giving of notes in the meantime bearing 5 per cent interest.

THE ALTAR OF PEACE.

Rome, Dec. 11.—Signor Cortese, the under secretary of the department of public instruction, answering an interrogation in the chamber of deputies, said that the Duke Fiano, under whose palace in the centre of Rome excavations were going on to discover the remains of the Ara Pacis, the peace monument set up by the Emperor Augustus B. C. 9, had contributed $1,000 towards the work. He said that the government had already spent $2,800, but even if the work were not entirely suspended it would be much retarded because of lack of funds. The under secretary declared it was untrue that Germany had contributed $1,200 to the work.

The HOUSEHOLD And YOUNGFOLKS

EDITED BY EMILY S. BOUTON.

Keynotes of Harmony

Wednesday.

Nobody changes from bad to better in a minute. It takes time for that, time and effort and a long struggle with evil habits and tempers.

Thursday.

Do not despise your situation; in it you must act, suffer and conquer. From every point on earth we are equally near to heaven and to the Infinite.

Friday.

Blessed is he who knows that the law of eternal life is service-willing and cheerful service.

Saturday.

Love is the moving principle of all life and growth. It is ever with us awaiting our recognition of its presence for greater unfoldment.

Sunday

Within yourself there exists a spark of the One Life which will grow and expand and guide you in the way of all truth if you will only listen to its voice and trust it.

Monday.

Evil is one of the externals of the life. It belongs to the material world. He who is calmly poised in a consciousness of spirit sees no evil.

Tuesday.

When we see ourselves as a part of the One Life and not as separate individuals, then that which we have heretofore regarded as evil will begin to vanish.

HO, FOR A MERRY CHRISTMAS! WHAT ITS TRUE SIGNIFICANCE IS.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

"Not in clouds and in terrors, but gentle as when,
In love and in meekness, He moved among men;
And the voice which breathed peace to the waves of the sea,
In the hush of my spirit would whisper to me!"

Christmas time once more! Almost a year has come and gone since the children hung their stockings in the chimney corner and went to bed happily, dreaming of the wonderful things that Santa Claus was bringing to them thro' the night, just as they have dreamed nineteen hundred times before, and as they will do, so long as the Christ is made the central and beautiful figure of our religious belief.

A year since the Christmas bells rang out cheerily to remind the waiting world of that wonderful story of love and sacrifice—a story which, in some form, enters into the past of every great religion—that thrills all who are seeking to know the way to the Higher Life! The earth has been wrapped in her robes of glistening white; has been kissed into an expression of life again in the springtime; has warmed to energy beneath the summer sun; and been touched with the crimson and gold that marks the harvest season, since last Christmas tide, and now it is here again with its suggestions of good cheer, its promise of joy, its memory of the past.

It is hard to say anything new of Christmas and there is no need. We know what it symbolizes, what is its real meaning. Let us remind ourselves that it is the time of all others when Love should reign in our hearts; when Hate should find no lodgment there; the time when the desire to help others ought to be the strongest; when, whatever the circumstances surrounding us, the inner spirit shall give us voice to speak in all earnest feeling—

"If I can lend
A strong hand to the fallen, or defend
The right against a single envious strain,
My life, though bare
Perhaps of much that seemeth dear and fair
To us of earth, will not have been in vain."

Nor is it necessary to say that, of all seasons, Christmas should be one of gladness, that bright smiles and cheerful words should fill the mental atmosphere with joy. Even though the year has been full of pain and struggle; though strenuous effort has ended in seeming failure; though the mountain top we strove to reach still looms far away in the distance; though sorrow has laid a heavy hand upon our hearts, still may we rejoice because Love, which was the keynote of the life of Jesus of Nazareth, whose birth Christmas celebrates, is just as vital a principle in the world as when he walked in Galilee. Love is never lost. Love which has in it the element of the Divine—and that only is true,—is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Love is walking by our side, seeking recognition, that thus may our lives be glorified.

And it is this Love that is never lost, that vitalizes everything which is worth having, that touches with its splendor all the truth we struggle for and gain, which Christmas symbolizes. Envy, hatred and malice can find no place in the heart where it is a dweller. It is the Christ-spirit for which we are to give room and welcome.

Above all other seasons is Christmas the one when creeds and theological differences should be bidden to seek their holes and remain in the darkness in which they properly belong. For what has the Christ-love to do with these things? Why should one say to another, Lo here! or Lo there! if the great central truth of Love and Sacrifice has found lodgment in our hearts? These questions and doubts and quibbles that make mountains out of molehills, belong nowhere in life, but especially are they at variance with this wonderful and beautiful spirit that belongs to the Christmas tide.

Creeds are but words,
Love is the reality.
Love fills the heart
With Charity, with Peace,
With Faith, with Hope, with Heaven—
Love to the Father,
Love to the Christ,
Love to our fellows—
This I feel within me
And it shall guide me,
He who rules by love—
By spirit love,
By love divine—
He who rules by love
Will not go wrong.

This is the truth that should at all times govern mankind. "Creeds are but words," man-made, and vicious beyond measure when they are used to draw distinctions that have in them no divine warrant for their being. Christ never taught their necessity. On the contrary the whole spirit of his work regarded the Oneness of life, the Fatherhood of God, the Brotherhood of Man.

The beautiful Christ spirit! How often it is wounded in the house of its friends!

I heard the other day of a movement by two or three ministers of what are called Evangelical churches, questioning the propriety of allowing one, who has for long lived a blameless life in our midst, doing the Master's work in all earnestness and sincerity, to go on with a mission work which he has undertaken, his only offense being the occupation for years of a pulpit not named orthodox. Those ministers, if this be true, must read Christ's teachings upside down. Think of objecting thus to a church in which the Bond of Union is contained in these words: "In the love of truth and in the spirit of Jesus Christ, we unite for the worship of God, and the service of man."

I am reminded here of what Miss Viny said when she was showing Lovey Mary her "denominational garden."

"An' here," continued Miss Viny, "are the Unitarians. You may be s'prised at me fer havin' 'em in here, 'long with the orthodox churches; but if the sun and the rain don't make no distinction, I don't see what right I got to put 'em on the other side of the fence. These first is sweet-william, as rich in blossom as the Unitarian is in good works, a sowin' theyselves constant, an' every little plant a-puttin' out a flower."

And then a little farther along she quaintly voices a truth in this way:

"There's all sorts of Christians; some stands fer sunshine; some fer shade; some fer beauty, some fer use; some up high, some down low. There's jes' one thing all the flowers has to unite in fightin' ag'inst—that's the canker worm. Hate. If it once gits in a plant, no matter how good an' strong that plant may be, it eats right down to its heart.'

"How do you get it out, Miss Viny?" asked Lovey Mary earnestly.

"Prayer an' perseverance. If the Christian 'll do his part, God'll do his'n. You see I'm tryin' to be to these flowers what God is to his churches. The sun which answers to the Spirit, has to shine on 'em all, an' the rain, which answers to God's mercy, has to fall on 'em all. I jes' watch 'em, an' plan fer 'em, an' shelter 'em, an' love 'em, an' if they do their part they're bound to grow."

I do not mean to accuse these good brothers of consciously "hating" in the movement they are said to be making, but simply to affirm that it is far from the Christ-spirit. People wonder why the churches are losing their influence. It is just such things as this—the failure to move forward with the broad and tolerant spirit of the age, to look for the truth in every man, the inner divinity that shapes his life and not at the cut of the theological garment which he wears.

Oh let us drown these empty sounds and forms—
The letter that divides in warring sects;
And let us fill our hearts with love to men,
Oh, build a church as wide as human needs;
Imbue it with the spirit, not the husk;
And henceforth leave the race unfettered, free,
To follow out its impulses divine.

The beautiful, the wonderful Christ spirit! That which "makes men free."—free from the shadows of fear, of sickness, of selfishness! This is the spirit which should take posession of our hearts at this Christmas season, filling them with love and charity and tolerance. Just so far as we welcome this guest Divine, just in the measure that we follow its leading in the purposes of our lives, in that degree will this holiday season bring to us lasting peace and happiness.

And so, a merry Christmas to All.

THE STRANGE SPEECH OF MRS. WRIGHT AND MRS. BELL.

A Subject for the Society of Psychic Research.

Mrs. Nellie Bell and Mrs. Lillie Wright, of Toledo, Ohio, are attracting the attention of prominent linguists and scientists.

They speak a language known only to themselves, the supposed result of a thought transference which began in childhood.

Mrs. Bell and Mrs. Wright are twin daughters of the late Dr. Bush, of Fremont, and they have lived most of their married lives in Toledo.

Socially popular, and possessed of wide acquaintance, their strange gift has long been accepted by their friends as a matter of course.

"Our friends here and in Fremont often ask us to converse for them," said Mrs. Bell to The Blade today, "simply because the speech is queer and utterly unlike theirs in sound. We have never thought much about it, as we have always used it when alone, but lately linguists have urged us to tell our rules of pronunciation and to write our language for them.

"The truth is, we have no rules. We have never paid attention to construction or to any analysis of the speech. One day, when a child, I was playing with a pet dog, and spoke to him in this strange tongue. My sister heard me, listened a minute or two, and replied in the same jargon, which was perfectly intelligible to me.

"Since then we have carried on all our conversations together in this talk.

"Our parents nor our sister were ever able to understand us, and used to laugh good naturedly when we talked our secrets before them in this way.

"Our sister, now Mrs. Brand, of Antwerp, Belgium, a student and a linguist, now urges us to formulate a grammar, and set down the rules of our talk, which she believes is a revival of some dead language."

"The first time we went to Europe," said Mrs. Wright, "a Hungarian professor of languages, who overheard us talking, asked us to write some words for him; he was master of many languages, and he wished to trace analogies in ours. We put him off from day to day, but he was so urgent that at last we did set down some words for him. He said the jargon resembled a mixture of Welsh and Indian."

"It is not euphonic," said Mrs. Bell, "because of the predominance of consonant sounds. It seems strange to us that we have talked it all these years without attracting any particular attention, and lately it has become known, and we receive letters and visits from scientists and linguists regarding it.

"A professor from Ann Arbor came down to see us a week or so ago, but we could tell him very little.

"We spell it phonetically in writing, and use it in our letters to each other.

"It is a great convenience many times, especially in traveling, and we often have pleasant little asides together which we would otherwise miss. We have frequently been asked what our nationality was by our fellow travelers, who, happening to overhear our conversation, would be nonplussed.

"The Theosophists are among our latest inquirers," said Mrs. Wright; 'they wish to investigate the language in support of their theory of reincarnation."

The little women do not take themselves seriously at all, but laugh good naturedly at all the serious attempts to make them famous, and go on with their cheerful chatter in the same old way.

They kindly gave an example to The Blade of their conversation. Mrs. Bell left the room, closing the door, and going across the hall to the library, where she was heard talking to a guest of the house. Then Mrs. Wright asked that something be said which she would translate in "our language," as the sisters call it, to Mrs. Bell.

"I see there is to be an excursion to the Pacific coast from February to April," said The Blade, reading from an advertisement.

"We have never said 'Pacific coast,' said Mrs. Wright; "just never had occasion to, you know, but it will make no difference, the words come to us as we need them."

She then called Mrs. Bell, gave her the sentence in their speech, which was quickly and correctly translated. "We never said 'Pacific coast' before," said Mrs. Bell, much to the satisfaction of Mrs. Wright.

A number of tests were tried, all proving the absolute subjectivity of the process of speech.

The following list of words, translated to "our language" affords an idea of the individual sounds of the letters of the alphabet. It will be observed that there is little similarity of sound between the English and the sisters' speech, a fact which makes "our language" distinctive and quite removed from "hog latin," or any of the known forms of childish dialect:

able—skebble.
believe—bekabe.
cedar—zouder.
deal—krel.
easy—kriskird.
effigy—skipegeh.
ginger—yunjur.
hay—kredkris.
item—skasketum.
jail—deyoul.
elevate—skielerute.
eminent—rumekrent.
entity—krenetch.
opal—cripel.
peculiar—berulynr.
curious—zehnirkus.
arbor—skiblux.
esteem—skyrum.
tea—rupskibru.
usury—skisery.
veal—krilblist.
wish—taquich.
extra—sumblitskettry.
wise—tagezumblitz.
zebra—strubedskirs.

The sisters speak French and German, but have only a high school acquaintance with Latin.

The fact of their never having to learn so intricate a speech as the foregoing, proves a perfected system of thought transference.

In conversation with their friends, Mrs. Wright and Mrs. Bell often reply in concert to questions put to either. The mental connection, which seems ever to exist between them is thus shown in their spontaneous and identical answers.

MARY RUTH LOCKE.

A MORAL TALE.

Sand Santa Claus. "'Tis Christmas Eve"
(The animals looked pleasant),
"And each of you will now receive
His yearly Christmas present.
But I'd be glad if every guest
Would mention what he'd like the best."

The Tapir said, "That pleases me,
I'll state succinctly, therefore,
If I may be so bold and free,—
The only thing I care for
Would be those matches on the shelf,
With which I'd like to light myself."

His wish was granted. Then up spake
A timid little Adder,
"Sir, but a trifle it will take
To make my Christmas gladder;
A slate and pencil, if you please,
Would let me do my sums with ease."

The Reindeer said, "You may believe
I'd be a happy fellow,
If I were sure I would receive
A good-sized umbrellow;
And also, I'd like four goloshEs and a rubber mackintosh."

The Pig a fountain pen desired;
The Cow, tin horns requested;
The Horse, for a new hat acquired,
His gratitude attested.
The Caterpillar said, "I am
Proud of my caterpillarsham."

So all of them were gay and glad,
And they were happy, very;
They liked the presents that they had,
And waxed exceedingly merry.
Dear Humans, at your Christmas feasts,
Pray take a lesson from the beasts.

—Carolyn Wells in The Reader.

THE GREEN BAREGE VEIL.

"Um-ah-um—um-ah-um—um!"

This was Mary Ellen's lullaby. The baby lay in one end of the cradle and dreamily looked at her—it was an ancient low wood cradle with a wooden hood and rockers—and in the other end of it sat Mary Ellen, rocking jerkily to and fro, her little toes just touching the floor, while she crooned her sing-song chant:

"Um-ah-um—um-ah-um—um!"

Mary Ellen and Jonathan took turns putting baby Sammy to sleep. There was such a big family of children in the small brown house that every one of them, down to five-year-old Jonathan, must do his share to help the dear mother who took care of them all. But today Sammy would not go to sleep. He fretted aloud now and then, and when he was quiet lay staring at sister Mary Ellen solemnly.

"Um-ah-um—um-ah-um—um!"

But Mary Ellen was not thinking of

"UM-AH-UM—UM-AM-UM—UM!" From Little Folks.

Sammy as she rocked and sang. Her little brain was full of what she was going to do when Sammy went to sleep. If only it had been Jonathan's turn to rock the cradle, Mary Ellen had looked forward all day to the joy of the afternoon, when for the first time in her life she could "play lady" as a little girl who lived in those days would wish to do it.

For it was a longtime ago that Mary Ellen was a little girl. She is a dear gray-haired old lady now—and she told me this story herself so that I know it is true.

Like other ladies of that time, when she went shopping or calling Mary Ellen's mother wore a big bonnet coming far out over her face, and tied around its edge a green barege veil which fell almost to the hem of her skirt. For years—Mary Ellen was only seven, but it seemed to her it must have been years—Mary Ellen had longed for such a veil. It seemed to Mary Ellen that it would be the very height of happiness to tie it around her own best bonnet and feel it falling over her face, and to gather it under her chin when the wind blew, and, above all, to sweep it gracefully to one side, or lay it up in folds over the edge of the bonnet, when she entered a house, as the grown-up ladies did.

She had confided this longing for a green barege veil, as she confided everything, to her dear mother. But there was not much money in the little brown house, so Mrs. Bassett could only shake her head and say tenderly, "Not just now, dear! Be patient, and some day when I can spare the money I will get a veil for you."

"Some day" was long in coming, though Mary Ellen was patient. But the green veil was never out of her mind. Then, one day a wonderful thing happened. Coming home from school with Jonathan, Mary Ellen found a silver quarter in the road; she had turned it up, glittering in the dust, with the toe of her stubby little shoe. There was no one in sight; and though she and Jonathan trudged up and down the road and even asked at two or three houses, they could not find anyone who had dropped a quarter. They waited a fortnight but no one came to claim the quarter. At last Mrs. Bassett said that as Mary Ellen had found it, she might have it to spend as she liked. Was there ever such a fortunate little girl!

They had gone to the store and bought the green veil together, that morning, and she and her mother. And now it lay folded in the closet, on the shelf with Mary Ellen's bonnet, waiting for the baby to go to sleep.

"Um-ah-um-um-ah-um!"

Sammy's eyes were closing. Mary Ellen stopped the cradle cautiously. Sammy's eyes were closed. Mary Ellen softly climbed out. Then she ran to the closet and put on the bonnet and tied the veil over it, and took from her pocket a queer, shabby, flabby old pocketbook which one of her grownup brothers had given her, and started out to go shopping round the room, stepping tiptoe, as soft as she could.

Oh, the joy of feeling the veil fall around her face! The deliciousness of having it tickle her little nose! the pride of having it sweep around her ankles! She went to the bureau to buy pins, and to the washstand to purchase soap and towels, and to the table to select books. She called on Mrs. Brown in one corner, and on Mrs. Robinson in another, and was just about to make a call on Mrs. Jones in a third corner, when Sammy woke up.

Sammy only whimpered a little at first, and Mary Ellen pretended not to hear. But soon he wailed and fretted and held out his little hand to Mary Ellen, trying to say her name in his dear baby way. But still his sister would not go to him because she was having a very fine time with Miss Jones. "Hush, Sammy!" she said; and then went on with her call and let him lie and cry until he cried himself to sleep.

She had just said good morning to Miss Jones and drawn the veil over her face again, when her mother came into the room. She stopped short, looking at Sammy with a frightened face. His cheeks were scarlet, and he was moaning and tossing though asleep.

"Mary Ellen," said Mrs. Bassett, "I am afraid the baby is sick. Has he cried much?"

"A little," said Mary Ellen, tossing away her head. Then her mother took Sammy up and went out of the room. And Mary Ellen stood quite still by the cradle, in her bonnet and veil, and thought.

The baby was sick! Poor Sammy was sick—and that was why he fretted and moaned and called and cried! Oh, if he had held on his little hands to her, and she would not go and take Jonathan, because she loved her green barege veil more than she did her little brother!

Pretty soon Mary Ellen went very quietly and soberly to the closet, and put away the bonnet and folded up the veil and laid it with the pocketbook on the shelf, and shut the door and came out.

She did not open that door again. Sammy was quite well; for he was very sick a long time, many weeks, and no one was always so patient and sorry with him as his little sister Mary.

When Sammy could laugh and play once more, and the trouble was all over, Mary Ellen one day took out her precious bonnet and veil and pocketbook and went calling and shopping once more all around her mother's room. But she did not forget her lesson. And ever since that time, and to this day, dear dear! think of her remembering these long years since she was a little girl!—to this day when Mary Ellen comes near letting something that she want to do stand in the way of something she ought to do, she remembers her little brother Sammy and the green barege veil. After that, the dear old lady says, she finds it easy to do the duty and let the pleasure wait.—Margaret Johnson in Little Folks.

The Cozy Corner

WHO IS TO BLAME?

I was struck with a point made in a recent letter to the Cozy Corner—viz: that ofttimes there is an unseen fault in the one who makes the complaint of another. For instance—a husband is prodigal, profligate, abusive, etc.; his wife censures him and feels—and often justly—that she is a martyr to his faults, and yet, if we go to the bottom of the trouble we almost invariably find some fault on both sides.

Even the best of women are but vessels of clay, and as "weaker vessels" are liable to err occasionally, but in the great majority of cases I think when they go wrong in any way—whether the trouble be ill temper, extravagance, or what not, it can be traced to some fault or neglect on the part of her husband. Woman is, generally speaking, what man makes her, or, though her affections are the stronger, her will seldom equals his.

It is true that Eve got the first bite of the apple, but I have always had the idea that Adam was off duty that day or she would not so easily have yielded to the tempter.

But I do not say that the woman is faultless. By kindness, patience and persistent love, a good woman can do much to hold the character of a man, and, as truly, a termagant or scold can mar and cloud his whole life.

St. Paul, though a bachelor, has laid down some excellent rules for domestic happiness, and St. Peter is in no ways behind him with good, practical advice to husbands and wives. King Lemuel tells us, however, that when the wife does all things as she should that "her husband praiseth her." And I think the solution of many unhappy homes may be found in the fact that too often a man thinks that his courting days are over as soon as he is married, and that there would be fewer family "jars" and divorces if men and their wives would continue to be lovers after the waning of the honeymoon—not only to know that they are so, but show each other by words and actions that possession has not made them less dear.

If, when either is dissatisfied with the way things are going in the home, he or she would examine themselves for faults, rather than look so carefully for faults in the other, far better results would ensue. After we have cast the beam from our own eye, it will be time to search for motes in others.—H. G. Miller, Tenn.

HOW A MISSOURI SCHOOLMA'AM MANAGED.

I have been a devoted reader of the Blade for years and have received much help from Emily S. Bouton's contributions. I wish I could reach the heights that she shows it is possible to reach in this life, in the New Thought. I have the first and second series of Lillian Whiting's World Beautiful, and would like to have a sketch of her life and her picture in the Blade.

I read in the Cozy Corner that "A Bachelor Girl" wants to know how to save a part of her wages. I cannot imagine why she rents a house and pays board at the same time. I would save the $25.00 she pays for house rent. I cannot speak of her other expenses without knowing more about them.

I am a schoolma'am and have never received more than $45 per month. For the last six years of my teaching I have been at home and paid nothing for board, but previous to that had paid more than $1,000 for that necessity. I have now $3,500, a $200 library, a phaeton, organ, furniture for two rooms, and about $60 worth of pictures. I have always worn good clothes—often better than those who have saved no money. I started with $100 at 10 per cent. for a nestegg and have added to this up to the present time. —A Missouri Schoolma'am.

A FAIR OFFER.

Dear Editor: If any one in the Cozy Corner will write us a story, or part or a story, I will promise to read it all.—Mrs. H. Larned.

Cannot Mrs. Larned go a little farther and promise to write a story for the others to read? Seriously, though, it would not be so hard as some might think for our Cozy Corner friends to write a very interesting story, by simply telling of something that has happened in their experience. Try it, friends, and show the M. G. R.'s that they do not monopolize all of the talent.

WHAT IS THE LIMIT OF PATIENCE?

The Household page is a source of inspiration to me, especially Miss Bouton's Heart and Soul Talks.

There is a question that has troubled me greatly, and I come to the Cozy Corner for help. It is this: How much is peace worth to us. Something goes wrong in the home; perhaps it is caused by a disorderly, lazy, or selfish mother—possibly an unthinking and quarrelsome husband or wife, or possibly, the trouble comes from a meddlesome, mischief-making neighbor. Though we know that these traits really injure the possessor more than any other person, yet we can sometimes feel that if they are resented they might be cured while the quiet bearing of them by friends who would sooner suffer than make trouble, really is an encouragement.

Now for my question—when can we, as Christians, resent, even though we know the storm is inevitable? When on, when, should the worm turn?—"Jess."

Here, There, Everywhere.

If you want thick, glossy hair, never wet it with water, nor use a fine comb. A safe and sure preparation for making a growth of nice hair is prepared by mixing equal parts of alcohol and sulphur; 8 oz. of each diluted with one pint of water. Rub it into the hair with the tips of the fingers, rubbing until the scalp glows and tingles, two or three times a week. At the same time take a teaspoonful of the mixture, still more weakened with water, morning and night. This internal remedy is quite as essential to producing the growth of hair as the external. Brush the hair with a stiff bristle brush every morning and night, and you will be well repaid for your trouble.—Aunt Lucy.

After cleaning house, do not send to the attic the articles of furnishings or clothing you do not need, but give it to some church for their rummage sale. There is nothing that will not find a purchaser at these sales, and it is better to let a poor person buy what she needs for a few pennies, than to give the same things to her as a gift. If these rummage sales do nothing more, they help to preserve the self-respect of those who have very little money to spend, and who dislike to take charity.—Aunt Lucy, Mich.

All made-over dishes are more savory when stock is used in place of clear water, so save the water in which meat and vegetables have been cooked. Strain it and set away in a cold place to use for soups, etc. Even the water in which cabbage has been boiled can be used in making Soup Cressy.

For "dress" occasions, the bodices of gowns are made without a collar and are cut to suit the face of the wearer. For instance: a long, oval face is improved by a square opening at the neck of the gown, while a very round face is equally improved by a long, V-shaped cut. A girl with a prominent nose should have her gown cut with a circular neck, as this will tend to broaden the face and make the large nose less noticeable.

Have you a desire to travel which your pocketbook will not allow you to indulge? Then go to Siberia, where it is possible to purchase a ticket covering six thousand miles, or nearly three weeks' journey, for three dollars. How shall you get to Siberia? That is for you to decide, but once there, one could indulge in railroad trips quite frequently, at less than street-car rates.

Copperas is one of the best and cheapest disinfectants in common use. Pour two quarts of boiling water over half a pound of the copperas, and when thoroughly dissolved, pour the mixture down the pipes to be disinfected.

Carpets which have been spotted by liquids spilt on them, may be cleaned and freshened by washing them with a cloth dipped in a solution of ammonia and water.

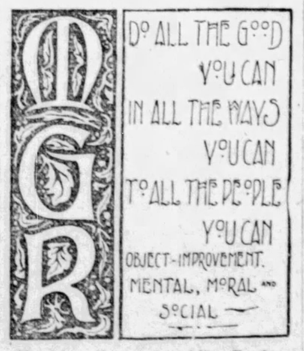
A woman who is her own laundress has found that by folding her towels, pillowslips and sheets, and passing them through the wringer two, or three, times, she can make them look as well as if she had ironed them and save herself much time and hard work by so doing.

In a family where it was found impossible to obtain a Christmas tree, an old-fashioned, three-cornered what-not was put in the place of honor; branches of evergreen were tied to the corner posts in front and an especially fine piece was tied to the top of the back post. The branches in front came close together and gave the what-not a very "tree-y" effect. Small gifts were tied to the posts and larger ones placed on the shelves back of the greens, and the result was quite all that could be desired, proving that if you cannot buy a tree, you can make one.

"My boy," said the visitor in the kindergarten, "can you tell me how to make a Maltese cross?"

"To be sure," answered Johnny, "just pull her tail."

Hair that is "un-combably" matted by illness may be saved from the scissors and straightened out easily by wetting it with alcohol.



Here is a letter that Miss Prudence has been keeping for an especial occasion, and now as the time for making our annual good resolutions draws near, its lessons of self-dependence will be of great value to us all.

I am sorry that the editor's request regarding the way the wives should obtain their spending money, did not extend to bachelors. I suppose she thought they had no difficulties in that line. But, dear reader, I will give my opinion for whatever it may be worth:

"They gave me advice and counsel in store,
Praised me and honored me more and more;
Said I should only 'wait awhile;'
Offered their patronage, too, with a smile.
But with all their honor and approbation
I should long ago have died of starvation,
Had there not come an excellent man
Who bravely to help me along began.

"Good fellow! He got me the food I ate—
His kindness and care I shall never forget.
Yet I cannot embrace him, tho' other folks can,
For I, myself, am the 'excellent man.'"

Counsel, advice, and reading the experience of others is good food for thought but sad will be the fate of man or woman who cannot rely upon their own, educated capacity to conquer circumstances and difficulties.

About the money—I think my married brethren have time to do twice the work in the field that I do so if they, by having a wife to do the work in the house, are enabled to earn twice as much money, should not the wife have half of it as her share? I think she should.

I keep my accounts so that they can be balanced each month and a glance at them will tell me just how much money I have to my credit. Should I ever be so fortunate—or unfortunate—as to have a wife, I should wish her to do this part of my work for me, and as long as there was money to our credit, her check (or it would be as good as mine, but I should expect that the cash book would show what she had done with her money, the same as it would show where mine had gone.

Now I can almost see the smile that creeps over the face of some working man who has just paid a bill for shoes and stockings, or something else for his wife, as he throws down The Blade and says: "If you had my wife, she would teach you a lesson or two."

No doubt she would, but she would also learn a lesson after she had taught me one or two. And why not? It is not long since she was a child who did not know what she wanted, nor able to tell where was the pain that made her cry; some one had to wash her face for her, and watch her lest she put her eyes out, or swallowed something that would have killed her. Because she is older, and your wife, is no reason why she should not be taught things she does not know about, even though one of those things chance to be the best use of money.—"Oregon Bach."

An invitation for Thanksgiving Day did not reach us in time for this year's festivities, but we thank "Olive Branch" for it just the same and, if she is willing, will let it hold good for next year:

Dear Miss Prudence and M. G. R. Friends:—I could not write a "model letter"if I tried, so shall not attempt it, but leave it for "Quien Saba," "Coralyn," "Muggins," "Indiana," and others of the M. G. R. who have drank deep of the "Pieran Spring;" then I will try to learn from them.

I called especially this evening to invite some guests for a Thanksgiving dinner. Miss Prudence is first on the list, for since I was admitted to this circle, one year ago, she has been very kind to me and a dinner would but partially express my love and gratitude.

Invitation number two, is for "Oregon Bach," poor man. We wish Lim to come, for he has no one to cook his dinner, and he might have to sit down alone to whatever he could prepare himself, and that would be too bad, at Thanksgiving time.

"Leal," Thanksgiving will be a holiday for you, so come and spend it with us. I am sure you would enjoy a day like this in the country with all its good cheer.

We always like to have with us at our feasts a good story teller, so I include "Mr. Smiley" among my invited guests. "A Jolly Spinster" will find a hearty welcome and we shall be very glad to have our 'Missouri Schoolma'am,' and if she would bring with her a basket of those nuts of which she told us, it would add much to the banquet.

"Florida Bach," if you have no previous engagement, we will welcome you to our feast and gladly listen to your interesting description of the "Sunny South." "Illinois," please come and share our good times. If "Pennsy's Prince" could condescend to dine at our humble board, we would give him a welcome, and listen to him as he would discourse on "The Switzerland of America." Will "Hoosere Puer Poets" please come with a poem befitting the occasion?

Will not mine be a pleasant party? To all other M. G. R.'s I extend the kindest greetings with the wish that each may truly enjoy the "Day," remembering that "Thanksgiving makes a crust sweet and its absence makes even a turkey bitter."

And so, M. G. R.'s, let us each count up our blessings for the past year. Every heart has something for which to give thanks, and though we may not have achieved success in every undertaking, or realized our brightest anticipations, we should be thankful for what we have had, and often it happens that we have given us that which is better than that we should have chosen.

"To the Giver of all blessings
Let our voices rise in praise,
For the joys and countless mercies
He hath sent to crown our days."

"For the homes of peace and plenty,
And a land so fair and wide,
For the labor of the noon-day
And the rest at even-tide."

"For the ever changing seasons,
And the blessings that they bring,
For Thy love so grand, eternal,
We would thank Thee, O, our King."

—"Olive Branch."

Banner Puzzlers

For November.

New Work—Hawkeye.
Solutions—U No Hoo.

1.—WHO WAS HE?

He was one of the ablest statesmen and orators of his time, and was born in Cornwall, England, in 1708. He obtained his education at Eton and Oxford, and was elected to parliament in 1735. He was made minister of war and gained great reputation by his management of military affairs during the last years of George II's reign. He was opposed to the Stamp Act, as well as to the course of the ministry in the early years of the American revolution. In 1778 he rose from a sick bed to make a speech in opposition to a motion in the house of lords to acknowledge the independence of America. At its close he was stricken with apoplexy and died a few weeks later. He possessed a fine personal appearance and a powerful voice. He was very popular with the people, and is often called "The Great Commoner." He was buried in Westminster Abbey.

2.—ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

A citizen donated a piece of land to a school district, which contained 3 acres, and was ¾ as wide as it was long. What were its dimensions in feet?

3.—DIAMOND.

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      x
    x x x
  x x x x x
x x x x x x x
  x x x x x
    x x x
      x
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1.—A consonant.
2.—A personal pronoun.
3.—Makes senseless.
4.—A loud noise.
5.—Where Saul consulted the witch.
6.—A Spanish verb.
7.—A consonant.

4.—PRINTER'S PI.

"Ym dimn ot em a dinkmog si; Chus trefcep yoj trinhee I dinf. Sa arf dexsce lal tryhela slibs, Hatt dog ro treaun haht gasdenis."

5.—QUERY.

What was the "Holy Grail?"

6.—QUOTATION.

Who wrote:
"Art is long and time is fleeting,
And our hearts, though stout and brave,
Still, like muffled drums are beating
Funeral marches to the grave."

Eleventh set in Competition.

Answers to Puzzles of Dec. 3.

1.—Dame Fashion.
2.—12 hours. (See Chat.)

3.—Words forming hour-glass: Mystery, cuticle, candy, act, F, core, rattan, methystic. Centrals: Sincerity.
4.—Pan, bowl, bucket, plate, pitcher, knife, table, roller, fork, basin.
5.—Venice was entitled "the [illegible] daughter of the empire."
6.—H. Bonar wrote:
"Think truly, and thy thoughts
Shall the world's famine feed
Speak truly, and each word of thine
Shall be a faithful seed;
Live truly, and thy life shall be
A great and noble creed."

Chat.

The solution sent by the author to the problem answered today is this:

At a rate of 15 rods per minute A makes a circuit of 720 rods in 48 minutes, or 4 hours. At 31 rods per minute, B makes a circuit in 23 and 7-31 minutes, or 2 hours. The least common multiple of 48 and 12-31 is 1860-155, or 12 hours. In 12 hours A has made a circuit 15 times; C, in opposite direction 20 times. All are together at starting point.

There was rather a slim attendance at the 'Cademy this morning, only Miss Larned and Mrs. Jas. E. Wilson being brave enough to come out in the cold to "do their lessons."

The eleventh in the series of Competitive Puzzles is given today; there will be only one more, and then the Schoolmistress hopes to receive the opinions of the pupils concerning which list has been the best.

Please be as prompt as possible in sending in your vote, as it is desirable that all shall be in soon after the first of the year, so that the winner's name may be announced.

MARINES WATCHING

For Colombian Invasion on the Pacific Coast of Panama.

Colon, Dec. 14.—A company of marines from the U. S. S. Prairie was landed here today, under the command of Capt. Smedly D. Butler, and entrained for Panama, whence the marines will be sent to a point on the coast south of Panama. This step was in consequence of the receipt of information that Colombian troops had landed in that direction with the object of marching on Panama. If this is confirmed it will mean the beginning of a long campaign of guerilla warfare on the isthmus. The destination of the marines is said to be Yariza, up the San Miguel gulf and Tuira river.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The navy department today received two cablegrams from Admiral Coghlan, both dated Colon, the 13th, as follows:

"Mayflower today reports Catagena and Pinson were at Turbo with four to eight hundred men. Took it some supplies. Sailed 8th and supposed to have landed the troops at Gandi. Atlanta, however, was at Gandi 9th and got opposing information, and Consul Cathagena reports Cartagena returned there 9th. No doubt the vessels and troops were at Turbo the 8th; that information reliable. Atlanta returns today to gulf for further search."

The second dispatch reads:

"Atlanta arrived yesterday. Started San Blas Port to Port Gandi, not having seen or heard anything of troops or vessel. Communication with shore at the principal points. Indians suspicious of strangers. Found trails San Blas Point to Pointe Belle passable for small parties, but none leading inland. Atlanta leaves today to cruise to Cape Tiburon and Gulf of Darien."

Washington, Dec. 14.—General Reyes the Colombian minister, called at the State department today and was closeted with Assistant Secretary Loomis for nearly an hour. In reply to a question, the general said he had given assurances to this government that pending his diplomatic mission to Washington there would be no hostilities on the part of the Colombian troops. As to what would be done after that the general would make no statement but significantly shrugged his shoulders. He would not disclose the nature of the paper which he is preparing for presentation to the State department, but wanted it said that Colombia in that statement would not make any demand for a part of the $10,000,000 to be paid to Panama, in consideration of the canal treaty. General Reyes expresses the hope that there would be no war between the United States and Colombia. "The United States wants civilization," he said. "She wants to be on friendly terms with the countries of the South."

Washington, Dec. 14.—United States Minister Beaupre has reported to the State department from Bogota that everything is quiet there, and he sees no reason to postpone his leave of absence. He is expected to leave the legation in the hands of Mr. Snyder, the charge and secretary, and depart at once for the United States.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The Democratic senators today were in caucus for two hours and adjourned until tomorrow. The subjects under discussion were party discipline, the force of caucus action and general policy. Toward the close of the meeting the Panama situation was talked over, the policy of the party regarding the new republic and the treaty being the question at issue. It is said the Isthmus situation will engage the attention of the caucus.

AFFAIRS IN PANAMA.

Panama, Dec. 11.—The principal work of a political nature now occupying the attention of the junta, consists in preparations to call a convention and to proceed with the elections of members of the house of representatives, etc. Efforts are being made to hold the convention February 3, three months after the declaration of the independence of Panama.

Federico Boyd, who recently went to the United States as a member of the special Panama commission, has resumed his place on the junta, Senor Espinoza, who was temporarily appointed a member of the junta, retiring.

Several of the Panamanian scouting parties have already left here, and others will leave Panama shortly to watch the movements of the Colombians. No reports have yet been received from the parties in the field, and there is no news tending to confirm the report from La Guiara of the landing of the Colombian troops at the mouth of the Atrato river.

A Panama gunboat and United States gunboat have proceeded together to David, near the western end of the Isthmus of Panama, for the purpose of giving the people of that district evidence of the fact that the United States forces are co-operating with those of Panama in maintaining peace on the isthmus. The gunboats are expected to return here Sunday.

I Cure Women

OF FEMALE DISEASES AND PILES

I Will Cure You So That You Will Stay Cured—Women No Longer Need Submit to Embarassing Examinations and Big Doctor Bills.

To Show Good Faith and to Prove to You That I Can Cure You I Will Send Free a Package of My Remedy to Every Sufferer.

I hold the secret of a discovery which has never failed to cure women of piles or female weakness. Falling of the womb, painful menstrual periods, leucorrhea, granulation, ulceration, etc., are very readily cured by my treatment.

I now offer this priceless secret to the women of America, knowing that it will always effect a cure, no matter how long you have suffered or how many doctors have failed.

I do not ask any sufferer to take my unsupported word for this, although it is true as gospel. If you will send me your name and address, I will send you a trial package absolutely free, which will show you that you can be cured. The free trial packages alone often are enough to cure.

Just sit down and write me for it today.

Mrs. Cora B. Miller, Box No. 107, Kokomo, Ind.

COLOMBIAN TROOPS

Landed at a Point Near the Panama Boundary.

La Guaira, Venezuela, Dec. 9.—The French steamer Versailles, which has arrived here from Savanilla, reports that Colombian steamers have landed 1,100 men, from Cartagena, near the mouth of the Atrato river (on the gulf or Darien), to open a way over the Darien mountains into Panama. Other troops from the department of Cauca, Colombia, are said to be converging on Panama, and from all parts of Colombia troops are reported to be marching or awaiting on the result of Gen. Reyes' mission to Washington.

Colon, Dec. 9.—The stated official purpose of the landing of United States marines from the cruiser Dixie, yesterday, and the establishing of a camp at Empire, is to give the marines practice in the building of camps and to provide relief from their long confinement on the vessel. The actual purpose of the United States government in landing the marines is, however, believed to be connected with the precautionary measures now being carried out on both sides of the isthmus and perhaps also for the moral effect which the landing of the marines may have on the native garrison at Panama, the loyalty of which though hitherto absolutely unswerving has been questioned in some quarters, especially since the discovery of the plot against the life of General Huertas, commander in chief of the forces of the republic of Panama, and the alleged effort on the part of a few army officers to persuade the garrison to revolt.

It is considered significant that the point selected for the encampment of the Dixie's marines, while it is the highest and best so far as sanitary conditions are concerned on the line of the Panama railroad, is also on the trail most frequently used in the past for the movement of troops overland from the Cauca district into the Chiriqui district.

If a body of Colombian troops should succeed in obtaining a foothold in the rich Chiriqui district it is generally conceded that, after predatory raids on the countryside they could retreat to the mountain fastnesses, from which it would be most difficult to dislodge them.

There is no doubt that the naval authorities took into consideration the moral effect on the Colombian government of the establishment of a marine camp at Empire.

Washington, Dec. 9.—Dr. Herran, the Colombian charge d'affaires, today authorized the statement that if troops from Cartagena have landed near the mouth of the Atrato river, as reported by the French steamer which has arrived at La Guira, it is directly in opposition to the advices of both himself and General Reyes.

Gen. Reyes confirmed the statement recently made by Admiral Coghlan in a report to the navy department, that prior to his departure for Washington, he had given instruction to the Colombian troops to make no hostile demonstration until he was heard from, and said that these troops were now awaiting orders, which, however, would not come from him direct, but from the government at Bogota.

Instead of confining military and naval operations to the narrow strip of the right-of-way across the isthmus, it has been decided that sound military policy requires the extension of the protected zone to include the entire territory of the Republic of Panama. Consequently, no Colombian troops will be allowed to cross the frontier into Panama; or, if they cross they will be ejected in due time.

The point on the Gulf of Darien, where the Colombian troops are reported to have landed, is believed to be just about on the dividing line between the territory of Panama and Colombia, and it is probable the troops will not cross the border without further instructions from Bogota.

A current report is to the effect that Colombian naval vessels are participating in the movement toward the isthmus, but it is said at the navy department that they are so insignificant in power and size that the smallest of the United States warships now on the east side of the isthmus could speedily terminate their activities.

Colombia's President.

Bogota, Dec. 11.—The presidential elections have passed off quietly throughout the Republic of Colombia, which occurred on Dec. 7. Generals Reyes and Gonzalez Valencia were considered as leaders in the contest. It will be some days before the result can be announced.

GUANTANAMO ISOURS.

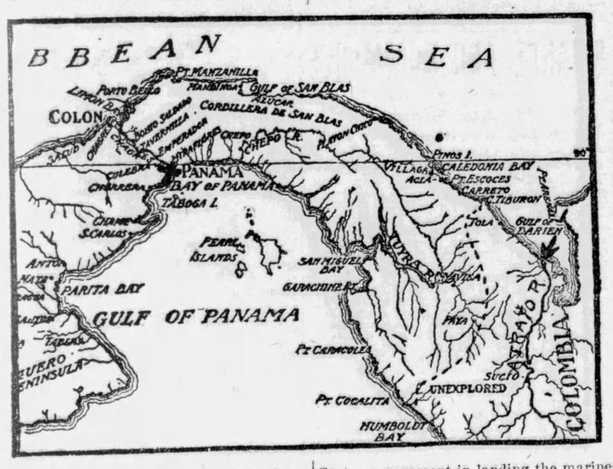
Guantanamo, Cuba, Dec. 11.—The United States batleships Kearsarge, Illinois and Alabama are expected to sail today for Porto Rico and for Culebra. The auxiliary cruiser Prairie will sail for Colon Monday. The Vixen and Scorpion will remain at this station. Only a few Cubans were present yesterday when the American flag was hoisted ashore and those who were present were some distance from the point where the United States naval force landed. It was currently reported that the local Cubans were not inclined to sanction their presence an act which they choose to consider was unjustly imposed on them by a strong power. Senor Purtunondo, chief engineer at Santiago, who represented the government of Cuba at the formal transfer of the Guantanamo site yesterday, and a Cuban lieutenant accompanied him, were cordially received by Rear Admiral Barker on board the flagship Kearsarge.

THE ISLE OF PINES.

Havana, Dec. 10.—The cabinet at a meeting last night ordered the establishment of a custom house at Fueva Gerona, the principal port of the Isle of Pines. The government thus complies with all requests of the United States residents of the Isle of Pines, with the exception of that relating to the American school. It is believed, however, that the school already established by the Americans on the island will be given government aid. It is thought that these concessions will dispose of much of the opposition at Washington to the ratification of the reciprocity treaty.

Herbert Spencer Cremated.

London, Dec. 14.—The remains of Herbert Spencer were cremated at Hampstead today, a few invited guests attending the rites, Leonard Courtney, M. P., made a brief address on the life and work of the dead prilosopher. An Indian gentleman who was present, offered to donate $5,000 to endow a Spencer lectureship at Oxford university.



RUSSIAN FLEET

At Chemulpo to Oppose Opening of Free Port.

Tokio, Dec. 9.—A trong Russian squadron, consisting of eight warships, including two battleships, has arrived at Chemulpo, Corea, the port of Seoul, the capital, to support Russia's opposition to the proposed opening of Yongampho to the commerce of the world. The Russians threaten to land three thousand men and march on Seoul, should Corea disregard their warning.

It has repeatedly been reported that the Russians have been fortifying Yongampho, on the Yalu river, but the reports to this effect appear to have been greatly exaggerated. Japan and Great Britain on October 17, according to a dispatch from Pekin, asked for the opening of Yongampho to the commerce of the world, and the Corean foreign minister consented, subject to the approval of the emperor of Corea, which was withheld, owing, it was said, to a strenuous protest made by the Russian minister to Corea, M. Pavloff, although this subsequently was denied. Corea was then said to have strongly objected to Russia's interference as being a violation of Corea's sovereign rights.

Later it was said that Japan insisted on the recognition of her influence in Corea, and the opening of Yongampho or other ports to foreign trade. A dispatch frm St. Petersburg, November 27, said Russia was willing to concede something, but she opposed the opening of Yongampho on account of its proximity to the mouth of the Yalu river, taking the ground that it would threaten her interests and complicate her difficulties in Manchuria. Some days later it was announced that Admiral Alexieff, the Russian viceroy of the far east, had sent a number of warships to Chamulpo.

A dispatch to the Associated Press from Seoul, Corea, December 5, announced that Minister Allen that day had a long interview with the emperor of Corea on the subject of the request of the United States for the opening of Wiju on the Yalu river, to the commerce of the world. The Corean government, it was added, had been placed in a dilemma by the demand of the United States.

It was pointed out at the time the dispatch of December 5 was received from Seoul, that Wiju was selected by the United States as a prospective port, instead of Yongampho, because, lying 40 miles above the latter port, the country within that limit would likewise be open to traffic, and naturally would be a substantial gain in the extent of market afforded.

Paris, Dec. 10.—Definite information has been received here to the effect that the czar has signed his approval of the general conditions preliminary to a Russo-Japanese agreement. Further information received shows them to be on the same general lines of the peace negotiations as outlined in the dispatches of the Associated Press.

It now develops that the overtures were formulated after the conferences between Admiral Alexieff, the Russian viceroy in the Far East, and the Japanese authorities, the results being entrusted to Admiral Alexieff to forward to St. Petersburg. The czar's approval will be communicated to Japan when it is expected the negotiations will proceed towards a conclusion.

It is confidently believed that Japan's early receipt of official information regarding Russia's pacific course will result in a similar improvement in the Japanese aspect.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

The Negotiations Are Still Not Completed at Tokio.

Seoul, Dec. 14.—The Japanese landed marines at Mokphe yesterday to suppress rioting during a strike among laborers. It is reported that they fired upon the mob, killing several people.

The strike was among Corean coolies employed in the foreign concession which precipitated clashes among the Coreans and Japanese. The affair, it is thought, may cause local complications, and it is possible Russia may send a warship should the Corean government resent the landing of marines by Japan.

London, Dec. 14.—The terms of Russia's reply to Japan have been communicated to the Japanese minister here, Baron Hayashi, by the government at Tokio. The minister subsequently said the negotiations were still incomplete, but he significantly added that he saw no reason to change his previously expressed opinion that a peaceful issue would result therefrom.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The State department has received the following cable from United States Minister Allen, dated Seoul, Corea, December 13:

"Japanese forces landed at Moktopia Point, on the west coast of Corea, 200 miles south of Chemulpopy, yesterday, to protect Japanese subjects from Corean riotcrs. This has no significance as trouble is purely local."

CHINA AND RUSSIA.

Pekin, Dec. 12.—Prince Ching informed the ministers in an audience that he was not negotiating with Russia and that the government was merely awaiting events. It is known, however, that Lien Fang, secretary of the board of general affairs, and who represented the foreign office during former negotiations, is paying frequent visits to Russian Minister Lessar.

London, Dec. 12.—The Pekin correspondent of the Times says it is reported that the possibility of an arrangement between Russia and Japan which will leave the question of Manchuria in abeyance, coupled with the long delay in the completion of the Russo-Japanese negotiations, tends to shake China's confidence in Japan and to induce China to take a more favorable view of the Russian demands regarding Manchuria.

NEW GERMAN CRUISERS.

Berlin, Dec. 11.—The eight armored cruisers that yet remain to be built under the naval program will approach battleships in tonnage, with corresponding increases in armor, gun power and steaming radius. The first of these has already been designed by the Navy department, and will be laid down immediately. The largest German cruiser in course of construction is the Roon, which was launched at Kiel in June last. She is under 10,000 tons. Technical writers, especially Lieutenant General Count Von Reventlow, have been urging the government to build cruisers as large as those of Great Britain, the United States and France with considerable coal capacity, the present armored cruisers of the German navy having a limited field of action and inferior armament. The vessels of the new cruiser type will somewhat impair the homeogeneity of the squadrons, and for this reason the Navy department reluctantly adopted them.

COGHLAN'S FLAGSHIP.

Colon, Dec. 11.—Admiral Coghlan has transferred his flag from the converted cruiser Mayflower to the auxiliary cruiser Dixie. The Mayflower has just left the harbor to cruise along the San Blas coast and to obtain reports from the cruiser Atlanta and the gunboat Bancroft, neither of which has yet returned here. The Atlanta is patrolling the eastern end of the San Blas coast and the Bancroft the western end.

Chairman Foss, of the naval affairs committee consults with President Roosevelt on the necessity for a large navy.

OF JAY AND HAMILTON

Statues on New York Chamber of Commerce Dedicated.

New York, Dec. 12.—Dedicatory ceremonies have been held at the unveiling of marble statues of three New York statesmen. De Witt Clinton, Alexander Hamilton and John Jay, which ornament the south facade of the Chamber of Commerce building in New York. Addresses were made by Governor Odell, Charles S. Fairchild, Judge Alton B. Parker and Morris K. Jessup, president of the chamber.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON. PRESENTED BY JOHN S KENNEDY.

JOHN JAY. PRESENTED BY THE LATE WILLIAM E DODGE

THE STANDARD IN TROUBLE

Vienna, Dec. 14.—Reports from Buchrest indicate that the Standard Oil company is meeting with much opposition in its efforts to obtain a footing in Roumania. At a private meeting of the supporters of the government M. Stourdza, president of the council of ministers, declared that the Americans had come to Roumania for the purpose of monopolizing the national petroleum industry and that they must prevent the country from submitting to such an economic yoke. The Standard Oil company, which has now abandoned its intention of combining any of the existing oil concerns of Roumania, but that, believing the country has large and valuable oil fields at present undiscovered, the company will endeavor to obtain them for its European trade.

BRYAN SEES THE POPE.

Rome, Dec. 14.—William Jennings Bryan, accompanied by his son, was received in private audience by the pope today. Mr. Bryan was presented by Monsignor Kennedy, rector of the American college, who acted as interpreter. His holiness spoke with great interest of the Catholics in the United States. After the audience Mr. Bryan expressed himself as highly pleased with the pope's kindly bearing. Before going to the vatican Mr. Bryan visited several of the interesting sights of Rome, including the Coliseum and the Roman Forum. He took particular interest in the spot from which Cicero thundered his invectives against the Catalines.

THEY ARE CANNIBALS.

London, Dec. 12.—Advices from Somaliland, East Africa, say that the Mad Mullah's camp followers have taken to cannibalism owing to a shortage of supplies. The body of a captive recently executed by the Mullah was immediately carried off and eaten. The feast was participated in by women, whom the Mullah subsequently ordered executed. These were in turn cooked and eaten by their late comrades.

According to deserters the Mullah is not suffering from an actual scarcity of food, but is husbanding his resources and restricting the distribution of food strictly to the fighting men, leaving the camp followers to shift for themselves.

RUSSIA IN THIBET.

London, Dec. 10.—The Daily Mail's Tokio correspondent says it is reported by the Chinese representative in Thibet that the Russians are building two forts and are preparing to resist the British expedition. The locality in which these forts are being built is not definitely known.

JAPAN'S COINAGE.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 11.—The steamer Shawmut, which has arrived, brought news from Yokohama that Professor Jenks, of the United States commission on coinage reform, was warmly welcomed in Japan. The committee of twelve was appointed by the Japanese government to confer with him. He will proceed from Japan to the Philippines and thence to Pekin. A notable reception was recently given to Rear Admiral P. H. Cooper, commanding the American Asiatic squadron at the United States legation at Tokio, the attendance including the minister of the United States and some of the most distinguished people in Japan.

LONG CRUISE

For the Torpedo Boat Destroyers of Our Navy.

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 12.—Convoyed by the cruiser Baltimore and carrying the whole board of inspection and survey of the navy in order that the seaworthiness of the speedy black destroyers may be officially attested, the first torpedo boat flotilla left Hampton roads today for the Philippines.

Few cruises in the history of the navy have excited the public and professional interest occasioned by this voyage of the Decatur, Barry, Chauncey, Dale and Bainbridge, which, when added to the Asiatic battleship fleet, will greatly enhance its fighting value.

Each of these destroyers, all of which are under command of Lieutenant Lloyd Chandler, is 245 feet long, 535 tons full load displacement, and 800 horse power. From twenty-eight to twenty-ine knots is the maximum speed per hour. For rapid evolutions they surpass any craft ever put into commission in the United States, their most notable work being the flying wedge, in which at full speed they come together in the form of a "V," their sides almost touching, and discharge torpedoes simultaneously at a given target.

Although many ships of the American navy smaller than these boats have crossed the Atlantic, it has been questioned whether the destroyers could successfully withstand the heavy seas at this season of the year in the Atlantic and Indian oceans.

The trip, which will be 18,000 miles long, is expected to demonstrate it.

Lieutenant Chandler, when questioned by the Navy department, declared the destroyers could make the trip safely and speedily without any convoy whatever. To be on the safe side and to answer as well as forestall criticism, Secretary Moody directed the board of inspection and survey, of which Capt. Charles J. Train is president, to take each destroyer into a stiff Atlantic gale and observe its behavior. The Bainbridge was thus tried.

There have not been enough gales at times when the board was disengaged to permit the trial of the other destroyers. The board has expressed the opinion that the vessels would all stand the trip well. Secretary Moody insisted that each be tried in a seaway, so the board had to go aboard when the flotilla started. If the weather between Hampton roads and Port Royal, the first stop, is heavy enough to convince them the craft have withstood as heavy weather as they are likely to encounter they will go ashore there; otherwise they will remain aboard until Key West or San Juan, Porto Rico is reached.

The Baltimore, commanded by Commander J. B. Briggs, will be the convoy only so far as Key West, where it will be replaced by the Buffalo, Capt. Albert Ross commanding, as convoy for the remaining distance.

The determination of the route is left largely to the commander of the Buffalo, but as tentatively outlined the flotilla will head straight from San Juan for Cape Verde islands, then past Gibraltar into the Mediterranean, with a short stop at Algiers and a longer one at Naples before passing through the Suez canal.

The destroyers will probably coal either at Port Said or Aden, and will touch at Bombay or near there, after which they will go down the Indian coast to Colombo in Ceylon, and swing northward again for a brief stop at Madras. Then the doughty little ships will push their noses across the Indian ocean to Acheen, at the northern end of Sumatra, just before passing through the Malacca strait to Singapore, at the toe of the Malay peninsula.

Then there will be no stop until the destroyers and the Buffalo swing at anchor off Cavite. It may be the stop at Madras will be eliminated and the flotilla will go straight across the Indian ocean from Colombo to Acheen. It depends upon the quality of the weather encountered. As a rule the flotilla will skirt the coast in waters where the weather is heavy.

The men on the destroyers express confidence in the ability of the boats to make a safe voyage to the far east, and say that the destroyers have proved stable in a heavy seaway.

An officer of the flotilla said that the boats are as high powered as the average cruiser, have as much free board as a loaded collier, and when going at fifteen knots speed are as comfortable as a big steamer.

He added that the destroyers shook a great deal when making full speed. There are about eighty men aboard each destroyer, a total of about 400 on the flotilla. No blue jacket has been found who expressed other than confidence that the voyage will be successful

DON'T KNOW EACH OTHER

New York, Dec. 11.—"It is impossible for New York to understand the West. It is impossible for the East to understand Chicago, and it is out of the question for New Yorkers to understand our university," said William Rainey Harper, president of the University of Chicago, at the annual reunion of the Alumnae and Alumni, in the Fifth Avenue hotel.

PROF. W. R. HARPER.

"The East knows nothing of the West. Boston is even worse than New York. Why, I am told that half the residents of New England never have been west of New York state. How narrow and provincial that is, and how can men, coming from institutions in the East, have any conception of what we are doing in the West.

HELEN GOULD DECLINES.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 14.—Miss Helen Gould today notified her friends among the board of lady managers of the World's Fair that under no circumstances could she consider the acceptance of the position of the president to succeed Mrs. James L. Blair. This, according to the members themselves, leaves the contest practically between Mrs. Walker Horton, of Buffalo, and Mrs. Daniel Manning, of Washington. Mrs. Mary Fox Montgomery, of Missouri, who has been mentioned as a candidate for president, said today that she thought there was no question that the contest would be between these two. The board will make an effort, after convening tomorrow, to secure permission to change the by-laws so that the present limitation of 21 members shall be increased to 23.

Bank at the Fair.

St. Louis, Dec. 11.—Preparations are being made for the establishment of a national bank on the world's fair grounds. A charter has been applied for and a meeting to elect officers and directors will be called in a few days. The bank is to be owned jointly by all bankers of the city who have financial interest in the exposition. The institution is to be known as the Bankers' National.

PISO'S CURE FOR CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS. Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists. CONSUMPTION

ANTI-SLAVERY LAW

Proclaimed in Moro Country by General Wood.

Manila, Dec. 11.—Major General Leonard Wood has proclaimed in Moroland an anti-slavery law, passed in October last by the legislative council of the Moro provinces. Upon the promise of the sultan and dattos to abide with its conditions, General Wood has suggested to Governor Taft the establishment of the native Moros on lands which will be assigned to them by the sultan and dattos at a rate of valuation sufficient to provide the latter with a moderate income from the rentals. He believes they will accept a proposition of the kind.

Carl Johnson, vice consul at Amoy, charged with aiding the conspiracy to smuggle coolies from China into the Philippines, disguised as merchants, denies that he has received any fees except those authorized by law to sign Chinese certificates. He also declares that he refused bribes.

The Philippine commission recommends that no interference take place with the coastwise laws until enough American vessels ask for some action thereon. The same recommendation is made in regard to the ocean-carrying trade with the United States.

Disturbances from outlaws are dying out throughout the interior provinces, and less lardonism is reported than ever before.

The exports of hemp from the province of Albay during November last are said to be the greatest in the history of this district.

Governor Taft, it has been decided, will continue to act in his official capacity until after his arrival in Washington.

COLORADO TIN.

Denver, Dec. 14.—There is enough tin in Colorado to supply the wants of the world. During the last week options on land near Rico, Dolores county, have been quietly secured by David H. Moffatt, Charles J. Hughes, jr., and Percy S. Rider, and within the next fortnight these men will announce to the world that Colorado has the richest tin ore ever discovered. The Atlantic Cable mine, about to be deserted for lack of gold or silver, has shown an 18-foot vein of tin ore. This means that David H. Moffatt has disclosed an avenue of wealth that will increase his income by many millions of dollars. Mr. Rider has been persistent in his denials of the find, as he wanted to secure options on lands at the least possible figures, and it was for this reason that the secret has been guarded with so much care.

SEA-GULL CAUSED WRECK.

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 14.—Investigation seems to show that a sea gull caused the wreck of the British second-class cruiser Flora, which was hauled off Village Point reef near Nanaimo Friday. When the accident happened both Captain Baker and the navigating officer were on the bridge. They mistook Spar buoy at Village Point for Cage buoy, two miles father down the sound, and steered their course toward shore, grounding on the reef in consequence.

A seagull perched on top of Spar buoy is said to have given it resemblance in the light to Cage buoy. Both buoys are on the same side of the channel, and navigators have declared that they do not give as efficient protection as it required in the dangerous water of the foggy Vancouver Island coast.

The steamships Willamette, Danube, and other vessels have been lost in that neighborhood.

MOVING THE OUTPOSTS.

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 11.—A dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer from Dawson, says:

Major Zachary Taylor Wood, who has returned to Dawson, announces the first change of Canadian outposts in conformity with the findings of the international commission which arbitrated the boundary dispute between Canada and the United States.

Major Wood, who is the commander of the Northwest mounted police, moved the police post at Wells, on the Dalton trail, to Pleasant Camp. It is possible that the latter may ultimately have to be changed also, but this will depend on the international survey which will be made next spring.

Major Wood is the man who became famous as collector of customs at the summit of White Pass during the first rush to the Klondike, and is the officer who at that time forced the Canadian line forward seventeen miles from Lake Bennett to the summit by advancing his detachment. He is a nephew of General Taylor, former President of the United States.

A BLACK LIST.

Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 14.—Joseph E. Valler, superintendent of the state free employment bureau, says domestics have a black list of employers, so that there are employers, some of them high in society, who cannot obtain a servant under any consideration. The question of wages does not appear to enter into the matter, as girls when asked why they refuse certain offers invariably reply, "No girl can work there." Valler says his information is passed along the ranks and none of those who have been employed in the city for long will go there. Once he thought he had a girl who had not received the reports of the secret intelligence bureau, but after starting for a place she returned and declined.

TWO CONVICTED.

Baltimore, Dec. 9.—Former Postal Clerks Thomas W. McGregor and Columbus Ellsworth Upton were convicted in the United States district court of conspiracy to defraud the government in connection with the purchase of 20,000 leather pouches for use in the free delivery service. Charles E. Smith, who received the order for the pouches through the influence of Upton and McGregor, was the principal witness against the accused. The case was given to the jury late yesterday afternoon, and after deliberating 45 minutes a verdict of guilty was returned. Counsel for the convicted men immediately made motion for a new trial, and Judge Morris agreed to hear arguments on the motion Saturday. Bond in $6,000 was furnished.

AN UNION FINED.

Chicago, Dec. 12.—One thousand dollars' fine for illegal acts as a corporate body was imposed upon Franklin union, No. 4, press feeders, by Judge Jesse Holdom today. The court found the union as a corporation guilty of contempt of court for violating an injunction restraining it as an organization from interfering with the business of ten printing firms, members of the Chicago Typothetae. Judge Holdom's action creates a precedent, it being the first time in the history of trades unionism in this country that a court has fined a union as a corporation. An immediate appeal was taken from the action of Judge Holdom.

Judge Holdom in giving his decision said:

"There is no reported case that I have been able to find of a fine having been imposed upon a labor union. Probably this is the reason that few of them are incorporated."

Continuing, the judge said:

"It appearing that Franklin union, No. 4, a corporation, is liable to a fine for violation of the injunction in this case, it but remains for the determination as to what the amount of that fine shall be. Punishment is meted out in accordance with the gravity of the offense committed. The consequences of violation of the injunction by the union have been many assaults on innocent persons seeking to work under contracts satisfactory to themselves and their employers."

Japanese Sealer Lost.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 14.—A letter received by the local sealers from Japan says the Japanese sealing schooner Sekotu Maru had been lost with all hands. She left Japan this spring and did not return. She carried five British Columbia sealers on board.

PLOT TO KILL POWELL

The San Domingo Politicians Wanted Him Put Out of the Way.

New York, Dec. 15.—An alleged plot to assassinate William F. Powell, United States minister to Hayti and charge d'affaires at Port-au-Prince, Santo Domingo, has been disclosed in a communication from an official of the present Dominican government to a fellow countryman in this city, who formerly was an official under Wos y Gil, the recently deposed president of the republic.

The letter states that the plot had been so arranged that ex-President Jiminez, under whose leadership Wos y Gil was overthrown should be killed at about the same time.

The plot to assassinate Minister Powell, it was asserted, was conceived because of his opposition to plans of certain officials. The plan as reported was to let two or three men get into a fight on a street along which Mr. Powell was passing. It was arranged that in the melee other plotters should engage, and it would be an easy matter to kill the American "by accident." With regard to Jiminez, the writer asserts that he was to be the victim of plain assassination and that already two unsuccessful attacks have been made upon his person. The first occurred Dec. 6, when a shot was fired at him while he was driving. The second attempt was made three days later.

Jiminez was the candidate for the presidency in opposition to Gen. Morales and the partisans of the men who desire to succeed Wos y Gil are said to be at loggerheads.

While the plot against Mr. Powell is said by the author of the letter to have been abandoned because of a strong stand taken by a member of the cabinet, it is said the American diplomat is being carefully guarded whenever he goes out.

Another Revolution Started.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Mr. Simpson, the United States consul at Puerto Plata, San Domingo, has cabled the state department under today's date that a revolution has broken out at Santiago and that the movement is extensive and serious. This is supposed to be the result of the failure of the provisional government to secure recognition at the hands of United States Minister Powell, which act operated to prevent that government from obtaining money necessary to maintain itself, through a foreign loan.

Nothing is known officially of the reported plots against the life of United States Minister Powell but the navy will take all necessary precautions to protect the American legation in San Domingo. The Newport will return there from San Juan as soon as she has coaled.

BATTLE OVER CUSTOMS

Persian Troops Defeated by the Turkomans.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 15.—Sanguinary conflicts between Persians and Turkomans are reported to have occurred on the Russo-Persian frontier. The trouble arose from the establishment of Persian custom houses. Fights between customs officers and Turkomans followed, and resulted in killings on both sides. The governor of Astrabad, with a large body of troops, intervened and refused an indemnity offered by the Turkoman khans. In the fighting which ensued both sides sustained heavy loses. According to a telegram to the Novoe Vremya the Persian troops were defeated and retired to Astrabad.

SWEET REVENGE BY THE ELEPHANT

New York, Dec. 15.—Harry Tyson, a carpenter at Central park thinks that baby elephant Hattie has a grudge against him, for she deliberately stepped on his toes yesterday. Her eighteenth step in the first exhibition she gave of walking on her hind legs had also been successfully accomplished, and this, her admirers say, made her feel skittish. With the aid of ropes, pulleys and elephant hooks William Snyder and Peter Shannon, keepers, have been working more than eight weeks to perfect Hattie in the art of walking on her hind legs. Though she has not yet walked in public, her private exhibition yesterday was a success. Tyson has aided Snyder in training Hattie, but the baby elephant showed dislike for the carpenter in many ways. Submitting with patience and great good humor to the caresses and pats on her head of others, she became aggressive when Tyson neared her. As she was about to take her eighteenth step in her trip around the room, she swerved toward Tyson. She took the step, and then brought one of her fore feet down heavily on Tyson's toes. The carpenter uttered cries of pain, and the elephant lifted her feet from his toes. Those who saw the affair say that it was not an accident.

WAS BURIED WITH MOHAMMEDAN RITES

London, Dec. 15.—The body of Lord Stanley, of Alderley, who died Dec. 10, of pneumonia, was buried according to Mohammedan rites in Alderley Park, Chelford, today. Such an occurrence is unique in the history of the British peerage. The strictest secrecy was observed. The casket was carried to the grave by servants, who, with the members of the family, were the only attendants at the ceremony.

A SURGICAL BLUNDER.

Hammond, Ind., Dec. 14.—Dr. I. B. Washburn, of Rensselaer, Ind., is dead as the result of a curious blunder made during an operation performed two years ago. Dr. Washburn had complained of his side ever since the operation but did not know the cause of the trouble and recently decided on a second operation. Dr. Loring operated upon Dr. Washburn and was amazed to discover in the patient's side near the liver a steel forcep about five and three-fourths inches in length. The forceps had become rusty. Dr. Washburn died a few hours after the operation. His son, who also is a doctor, says the forceps caused death. The decedent was a member of the Indiana legislature in 1872 and a surgeon in the civil war. He was the organizer and first president of the Kankakee Valley Medical association.

ALEXANDRETTA AFFAIR.

Constantinople, Dec. 11.—The United States legation's latest advices regarding the Alexandretta affair confirm the reports of the violence of the police and the attack on Consul Davis, who had only used his cane in self-defense. It appears that Attarian, the naturalized American, who had asked for the consul's assistance to enable him to embark for Egypt, was arrested by a subterfuge. After he had embarked on the consular boat with Mr. Davis, Attarian was invited to land, to undergo examination, whereupon the man was suddenly seized by three policemen and promptly locked up. Mr. Davis, in attempting to interpose, was assaulted by the police, and was obliged to defend himself with his cane. Attarian is still a prisoner.

The report that the United States cruiser San Francisco had left Beirut for Alexandretta, was premature.

Goulds execute another coup and gain an entrance to Cleveland for the Wabash, using trackage rights over the new Erie cut-off.

I Save Weak Men.

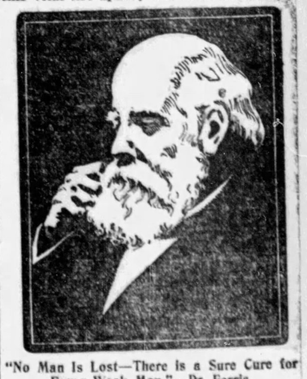
I Have Discovered the Marvelous Secret of Perpetual Youth and Undying Manly Vigor and I Give It to You Free.

My Mysterious Compound Startles the World With Its Wonderful Cures—With This Marvelous Secret No Man Can Grow Old and It Is My Mission on Earth Henceforth to Bring All Jaded, Worn-Out Men to This Fountain of Youth.

Send No Money—Simply Send Your Name and Address and This Marvelous Compound Will Be Sent You By Return Mail, Prepaid and Absolutely Free.

I have discovered the marvelous secret of perpetual life and vigor in men. To me it has been given to bring to the fallen, weary, worn-out brothers the knowledge of this priceless boon, and even to the uttermost ends of the earth I send my message of love and peace and hope and help. Unbelievers may scoff and cry "fake" but I heed them not. My work has just begun and I am saving men.

The secret of this mighty healing power, this vital life spark, this marvelous tonic



"No Man Is Lost—There Is a Sure Cure for Every Weak Man."—Dr. Ferris.

fluid is known to me alone. It is mine to give to whom I will and my works go before me. Doubt not! I ask no man to believe me, but I give to every weak man free this priceless boon and it restores him instantly to the strength and powerful vigor of youth. With this marvelous, mysterious compound, which I have discovered only after a lifetime devoted to search through all the realms of science, and the archives of the ancients, it is possible for every weak man to have for his own the glorious manly power, the untiring vigor and the long life of the patriarchs of Bible times. With this mysterious compound no weak man will ever again be troubled with impotency, vital losses, nightly emissions, spermatorhea, varicocele, prematurity, defective power or lack of vital energy.

Send me no money. It is my duty, guided by an Unseen Hand—it is my mission on earth—my life work—to lift up the fallen, heal the weak and cure the maimed or undeveloped; and to every man who has lost his vital power or finds it waning, I send my message of love and peace and health. I can save him and I will save him, and restore him to many years of happiness and the impetuous vigor and vigorous manhood of perfect health and youth.

Remember, it matters not how old you are; it matters not how you lost your manhood, or when you lost it. It matters not what doctors or scoffers say. This is no ordinary drug or stimulating method of treatment, but it is the vital spark of life itself, and it matters not how many remedies and doctors have failed. I have repeatedly and instantly renewed the youth of old men. My secret compound never fails. I have often instilled into faded men new vitality, health and strength. For worn-out men I have enkindled, in an instant, and to stay, the sparkling vitality of youth. Write me today and tell me in strictest confidence all about your case. My private address is Dr. C. Sargent Ferris, 47 Strawn Building, Cleveland, Ohio, and I urge every weak man to come to me for I will give him undying

NORTHERN SECURITIES.

The Case Now in the Court of Last Resort.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Immediately after disposing of its routine Monday morning business, the supreme court of the United States today began hearing arguments in the case of the Northern Securities company, James J. Hill, J. P. Morgan, and Daniel S. Lamont and others vs. the United States, coming to this court on appeal from the decision of the circuit court for the district of Minnesota. That decision was to the effect that the purchase of the greater share of the stock of the two railroad companies constituted a merger and was contrary to the Sherman anti-trust law. The case involves the community of interest principle. The hearing began at 12:20 o'clock and John Johnson, representing the Northern Securities company, made the first argument.

After stating the case Mr. Johnson said that the purpose of the securities company in acquiring the stock of the railroad companies had been not to prevent competition, but to prevent the injury of its own property. Early in the argument Justice Peckham asked whether the securities company held the major portion of the stock of the two companies and Mr. Johnson admitted that the company had nearly all the stock. He contended that, holding the stock, it had the authority to control it. He took sharp exception to the decision of the circuit court that the possession of the power which the securities company had was a violation of the law, and contended that such holding was not in accordance with decisions of the supreme court which were uniformly to the effect that it is the use of power and not the possession of it that constituted the offense.

Mr. Johnson said that what he had to say would be stated in six propositions, which he outlined briefly as follows:

"The first is that there was no agreement, contract, by nation or conspiracy to restrain competition between these two railway companies or restrain trade. The second is that if two railway companies somewhat in competition with themselves find it necessary, in order to sustain their competition against a third company, which otherwise could destroy them, or greatly interfere with their usefulness to the public, to combine in any way for the purpose of protecting themselves against destruction, and in order, by means of that protection, to make a greater competition with a greater rival on a greater scale for the greater advantage of the public, that the court must look to the matter as one of fact, to determine whether the real purpose was to destroy or lead to the destruction of the small competition in order to promote trade by the establishment of the greater competitive power.

The third proposition is that if the holding of the Northern Securities company of the majority of the shares of the two companies was a violation of the Sherman act of course an agreement amongst any number of persons would be a violation of that act.

The fourth proposition is that the first section of the Sherman act does not in any way condemn as illegal the acquisition or ownership of the shares of the two competing companies.

The fifth proposition is that the second section of the Sherman act does not in any way condemn the acquisition and holding of such ownership of shares.

The sixth proposition is that if the Sherman act does condemn as illegal the ownership of a controlling interest in the shares of the competing railway companies that it is unconstitutional.

Mr. Johnson reviewed the purchase of the Burlington, and the raid of the Union Pacific on Northern Pacific stock by which it gained control, and led to the merger, which he argued was necessary in order to get reduced rates for the trade to the Orient.

He contended that corporations should have the same right as individuals. To contend otherwise, he declared, would lead to untold mischief.

Justice White interrupted Mr. Johnson to observe that as he understood the point it would be unlawful for a corporation to do what an individual might do.

"In which case," continued Justice White, "you leave the power to compete in the hands of a very wealthy individual. Is not the answer to this that the ability with which a corporation can be formed renders much more reasonable the existence of competition than would exist in case only a very rich man could exert that power."

Mr. Johnson admitted in reply that that was a common sense view, and then reverted to the decision of the circuit court against the Securities company because it has the power to restrain trade. Mr. Johnson declared that this decision was something new in jurisprudence.

"Few of us have a desire to commit murder," he said, "but many of us use a razor, which gives us the power to murder."

THE WOOD CHARGES.

Washington, Dec. 14.—When the senate committee on military affairs today resumed its investigation of charges against Gen. Leonard Wood, four witnesses were waiting to be heard. These were Dr. C. E. Fisher, of Chicago, and J. W. Leverise, editor of the Jacksonville, Fla., Times-Union, managing editor and city editor respectively of the Havana Post published during American occupation; L. H. Morrison, of New York, and General John R. Brooke, retired.

Mr. Fisher was called first. He told the story of Gen. Wood's intimacy with Ballairs and attempted to show that Gen. Wood knew of Ballairs' bad record. Dr. Fisher said that in September, 1900, he accompanied Gen. Wood on a trip to the Isle of Pines, and there told him of an article which he had ordered printed in the Havana Post exposing Ballairs. The witness said that Gen. Wood told him he did not want the story printed, and said that it had not been used on account of that request. Dr. Fisher said he took charge of the Havana paper at the request of Gen. Wood, and that he also had acted as the correspondent for the Associated Press for a short period. Mr. La Fontisee was then called, but the committee took an adjournment for the opening of the senate without proceeding far with his examination. He was called to corroborate the testimony of Mr. Fisher.

RHEUMATISM

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HOAR'S RESOLUTION.

He Wants to Know Facts in the Panama Case.

Washington, Dec. 9.—Senator Hoar today introduced the following resolution:

"Resolved that the President be requested, if not in his judgment incompatible with the public interest, to communicate to the senate such fact as may be in his possession or in that of any of the executive departments, as will show, whether at the time of the ratification of the treaty with the Republic of Panama lately communicated to the senate that Province Panama had successfully established its independence, had lawfully adopted a constitution and had given authority to the persons with whom such treaty purports to have been made to negotiate and ratify the same, also the population of said republic of Panama at that time, its capacity for self government and the race and character of the persons composing it; also whether the officials negotiating or ratifying the treaty on the part of Panama, had any personal or private interest in or relation to the construction of a canal across the Isthmus of Panama; also whether the constitution of the Republic of Colombia authorized the session of Panama therefrom, and whether Colombia was prevented by the action of the United States or by any officer or force, under the jurisdiction of the same, from attempting to assert its authority or to prevent such secession, and what instructions if any, had been given by the government of the United States to such officers, whether civil, military or naval, and whether, if any action had been taken by such officers without special authority, what action was so taken, and whether such action has been approved or disapproved by the government of the United States, also at what time information of any revolution or resistance to the government of Colombia in Panama was received by the government of the United States, or any department thereof, and whether any information was received of any expected or intended revolution before it occurred, and the date of such information."

By general agreement the resolution went over until tomorrow without discussion.

HOLIDAY RECESS.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The House, upon convening today, adopted a concurrent resolution providing for a recess adjournment from December 19 to January 4. The speaker, by unanimous consent, appointed Delegate Kalauianoale of Hawaii as a member of the committee on territories.

A joint resolution was adopted providing that the last naval appropriation bill shall not be so construed as to deprive midshipman at sea of commutation of rations. The House then went into the committee of the whole, with Mr. Lamb (Mass.) in the chair, for the further consideration of the pensions appropriation bill. Mr. Adams (Pa.) spoke on the Panama situation.

Mr. Adams defended the course pursued by the government in connection with the canal question and the policy of the administration in dealing with the Central American situation. He said Colombia had acted in a shameful manner in the canal negotiations. Troops of the Colombian government, he said, were on the isthmus when Panama declared for freedom and made no opposition to the act.

Mr. Gaines (Dem., Tenn.), who was recognized for one hour, spoke on tobacco interests, asserting the need of legislation in behalf of the grower. The farmers of the tobacco state are crying out against the war taxes, which, he said, are imposed.

BAILEY'S TALK.

Washington, Dec. 14.—When the senate convened today Mr. Bailey (Tex.) spoke on the Cuban bill. He opposed the measure, declaring it to be vicious both as a matter of law and of policy. The question of law, he said, should be considered first, and in that connection he laid down three propositions. The first was that the house of representatives alone has the right to originate revenue bills, and neither the President nor the President and senate joined possessed the power to enact legislation affecting revenue.

The second declared that the constitution of the republic commits the treaty making power to the President and the senate and the house of representatives has no right to approve or disapprove the Cuban treaty.

The third proposition asserts that neither the President and senate alone nor the President and senate acting in conjunction with the house of representative has the right to originate such revenue measures and that what is null and void in its beginning must be null and void throughout.

PRESIDENT ATTENDED PROCTOR'S FUNERAL

Washington, Dec. 15.—The meeting of the cabinet, which was to have been held today, was postponed until tomorrow on account of the funeral of John R. Procter, late president of the civil service commission, which was attended by the President and Mrs. Roosevelt.

IN THE SUPREME COURT.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 14.—The suit of the government against the Northern Securities company came up for argument today in the United States supreme court. This suit, like that brought by the state of Minnesota, is for the dissolution of the Northern Pacific and Great Northern merger. Argument in the Minnesota case has been postponed until January 4.

The Pension Bill.

Washington, Dec. 10.—The house committee on appropriations today authorized a favorable report on the pension appropriation bill. It carries a total of $138,-150,100, which is $2,500 less than the estimates submitted. The bill carries $1,-697,500 less than was appropriated for pensions last year.

WOULD "AVENGE" SPAIN

Left $10,000 for General Who Should Punish Uncle Sam.

London, Dec. 15.—The will of the late Cardinal Herrecy y Espinas contains, according to a special despatch from Madrid, the extraordinary bequest of $10,000 to the "first Spanish general landing in United States territory with an army sufficiently strong to avenge the defeats of Cuba and the Philippines." Pending the happening of this result, the legacy is to remain deposited in the Bank of Spain.

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OBEYING REYES.

No Hostile Move Until He Has Returned.

Washington, Dec. 10.—Cablegrams received today by Gen. Reyes, the Colombian minister, and by Dr. Herran, the Colombian secretary of legation, are pacific in tenor and the officials of the Colombian legation are inclined to believe that the Colombian people are obeying the final instructions of General Reyes, their commander-in-chief, who before leaving his country issued an order that no hostile movements were to be made against the United States or Panama, pending the completion of his mission.

Secretary Hay's illness has prevented a conference between the secretary and the Colombian minister this week but upon Mr. Hay's return to the state department Gen. Reyes expects to see him and the chances are the general's mission will be concluded very soon thereafter.

Gen. Reyes has cabled the Bogota government setting forth very explicitly the true situation here. He has not attempted in his advices to cloak the fact that there is no hope of prevailing on the United States to retrace its steps on the isthmus. The only possible result Gen. Reyes could bring about here, as he has officially informed the Bogota government, would be the securing of satisfactory peace terms with the new republic.

Panamaian diplomats say with the departure of Gen. Reyes from Washington, they expect the Colombian legation to remain closed for an indefinite period.

PANAMA TREATY HERE

Signed Document Arrives by the City of Washington.

New York, Dec. 15.—The steamer City of Washington arrived today from Colon bringing the signed copy of the canal treaty with the republic of Panama. The treaty was in a metal box in charge of the purser, who turned it over to a representative of the government on arrival at the dock. There was no news of importance reported by the officers and passengers.

GIFT OF LOUISIANA.

Document Brought to Light in French Archives.

Paris, Dec. 15.—Under the authority of M. Delcasse, E. Spencer Pratt is making extensive researches in the French archives relative to the transfer of the province of Louisiana by France to the United States. Many of the documents have hitherto been unavailable.

One of the most curious documents found is an autograph letter of Louis XV, giving away the vast Louisiana territory to his cousin, then King of Spain, as a present. The text of the letter discloses the casual nature of the gift and also the fact that Louis XV previously offered Louisiana to Great Britain, which refused to accept it.

INDIAN AGENT IS EXONERATED IN REPORT

Washington, Dec. 15.—Indian Agent Randlett, in charge of the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache agency in Oklahoma, and Indian Inspector Nesler are completely exonerated by Francis E. Leupp in his report on the investigation of charges against those officials. The charges were made in a memorial signed by Delos K. Lonewalt and other dissatisfied Indians, and Mr. Leupp, whose report has just been forwarded to the senate by Secretary Hitchcock, made an exhaustive investigation at the request of President Roosevelt. It was alleged, among other things, that allotments were made to dead Indians and white men.

LAKE STEAMER'S TRIP.

Detroit, Dec. 14.—The steamer J. H. Hutchinson, looking like a phantom ship, and covered with ice and snow from her water line to half way up her spars, ran into St. Clair river at Port Huron yesterday afternoon about 5 o'clock and rounded to below that place for the night, not daring to run the rivers on account of all lights and aid to navigation having been removed for the season.

Up to a late hour the wrecker Favorite, which was supposed to accompany the disabled steamer down as far as Detroit, had not made the river and it was reported she had become lost in a snow storm and ran back to port.

Coming across Lake Huron the Hutchinson encountered fierce snow storms and freezing cold weather and was a mass of ice when she finally stopped for the night. She will start down at daylight this morning and the tug General will run up into Lake St. Clair to meet her.

The Grosse Pointe lightship being in the ice is unable to guide the Hutchinson across the lake and she will have to steer a compass course. The General will endeavor to reach the location of the lightship and be of as much aid as possible. She will probably have to do some ice crushing in order to get the big boat through.

The underwriters, who now have charge of the Hutchinson are going to take no chances and last evening consulted with the masters of the river passenger boats as to land mark ranges and obtained as much information as possible to help the Hutchinson.

In all probabilities the lighthouse tender Marigold, will go up as far as Peche Isle to lay until the boat comes down, marking the turn at Windmill Point, thus taking the place of the front range at Peche Isle. The range was carried away early by the ice.

SAM PARKS NEAR DEATH

His Lungs Have Become Solidified—Cannot Live.

Sing Sing, Dec. 15.—Sam Parks, the former labor leader, who is serving a two-and-one-half-years' sentence in Sing Sing, will leave the prison hospital next week if all goes well.

According to Warden Johnston, Parks will be put at light work in the brush shop, more to occupy his mind and hands than to accomplish any material results.

The prison doctor is authority for the statement that both of Parks' lungs are solidified and that he has daily hemorrhages. There is no hope for his recovery, it is declared, and he will not live out the spring.

Broker Dies Suddenly.

Boston, Dec. 15.—Edward C. Hodges, a well known broker, was found dead today in his room at the Algonquin club. Death resulted from heart disease. He was a members of the Boston and New York stock exchanges and the Chicago board of trade.

OPERATION ON EMPEROR

Report in London That It Has Been Performed.

London, Dec. 15.—The Daily News this morning, announces that it learns from well-informed quarters, that a second operation has been performed on the kaiser's throat.

The paper adds that its information is that a third operation may be necessary.

This report is in direct contradiction of all other recent despatches from Berlin regarding the kaiser.

Denial From Berlin.

Berlin, Dec. 15.—The statement published in the London Daily News this morning that it has been learned that a second operation had been performed on Emperor William's throat, and that a third operation may be necessary, is asserted to be erroneous. Further matter taken from the wound was submitted to 22 of the greatest specialists in internal growths, every one of whom reported it to be benignant.

TO TAKE SLICE OF SIAM

French Troops Massed on Border in Fear of War.

Paris, Dec. 15.—Dispatches from Indo-China report the massing of French troops on the Siamese border in anticipation of war. The officials of Indo-China are quoted as saying that the occupation of a large slice of Siam has been decided upon. The authorities in Paris do not believe that a rupture with Siam will occur and say the measures taken are merely precautionary.

CHINESE STEAMER LINE.

San Francisco, Dec. 12.—Eng Hok Fong, president and general manager of the China Commercial Steamship company which is operating a line of steamers between Fong Kong, Manzanillo and this port has arrived here from Mexico. He says that his company has found its Pacific ocean enterprise a paying one, and is now figuring on increasing its steamer service between the Orient and the Pacific coast ports. As regards the proposition to establish a regular service to Portland, Eng Hok Fong confirms the report to the effect that the experimental visits of the company's vessels to the northern port had proved successful, and that it is the intention to include the north hereafter in the traffic territory of the company.

The Blairs.

St. Louis, Dec. 12.—It is learned that Mr. and Mrs. James L. Blair quietly left the Mullanphy hospital Thursday night, drove to the union station and departed for some point in Florida, presumably Eustis. Dr. Kimball, a physician from the city hospital, accompanied Mr. Blair. A date has not been set for the trial of the indictments charging forgery returned against Mr. Blair by the grand jury, and it is not known when he will return to St. Louis. He is now under $10,000 bonds.

COTTON PRODUCTION

Is Decreasing in the United States—The Result.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The steady reduction in the cotton production of the United States in recent years is resulting in vigorous and systematic efforts by European countries to establish a cotton-producing industry in other parts of the world which shall render them independent of the United States for this important staple, which for many years has brought more money into this country than any other single product of the farm of factory. Prior to 1898 the cotton production of the United States steadily increased, and this country became the great cotton producer of the world, supplying fully three-fourths, and in many cases four-fifths, of the world's cotton. In 1898 the crop was the unprecedented figure of 11,199,994 bales, and in 1899 had reached 11,274,840 bales. From that period began a reduction of cotton production, the figures for 1900 being 9,-436,416 bales; for 1901, 10,383,422 bales; for 1902, 10,425,133 bales. The department of agriculture now announces an estimate of 9,962,000 bales for 1903. The total value of cotton exported from the United States since 1870 is $7,339,658,392, and from 1800 down to the present time, $11,237,926,092.

Thus while in nearly all the other great productions of the country the years from 1899 to 1903 have shown a steady advance, that of cotton has shown a steady decline. Coal production in that period has increased from 226 million tons in 1899 to 261 millions in 1902; pig iron, from 13 million tons in 1899 to nearly 18 millions in 1902; steel, from 10½ million tons in 1899 to 15 millions in 1902; copper, from 253 thousand tons in 1899 to 286 thousand tons in 1902; silver, from 70 million dollars' value in 1899 to 75 millions in 1902; gold, from 71 millions in 1899 to 80 millions in 1902; wool, from 272 million pounds in 1899 to 316 millions in 1902; wheat, from 547 million bushels in 1899 to 670 millions in 1902; corn, from 2 billion bushels in 1899 to 2½ billions in 1902; while cotton has fallen from 11,274,000 bales in 1899 to an estimated 9,962,000 bales in 1903.

The effect of this reduction in our production of the clothing material for which the world relies almost exclusively upon the United States and the consequent high prices resulting from the decrease of production has been as above indicated, a vigorous and systematic attempt in the European countries and in some parts of their tropical or subtropical areas. This includes, in the case of England, her colonial possessions in East Africa, West Africa, India, the West Indian Islands, and her possessions on the mainland of tropical America; Germany, her possessions in Africa; Russia, her southern territory, which already produces considerable quantities of cotton; while the Portuguese and Belgian possessions in Africa are also being subjected to careful examination with reference to their cotton-producing possibilities.

Other countries whose consumption of raw cotton is small have been influenced by the high price of cotton. Consul Ruffin, at Asuncion, reports a lively interest in cotton raising in Paraguay. The United States minister to Peru, Mr. Douglas, says that the coast region of that country is especially favorable for cotton culture, already producing about twenty million pounds, but efforts are being made to increase it largely. Consul Donaldson, at Managua, says that cotton grows wild and luxuriantly in Nicaragua, but states that the last crop was destroyed by insects. Consul Watts, at Pernambuco, says that no cotton is grown in Austro-Hungary, all attempts, including recent attempts in Hungary, having signally failed.

ALABAMA CELEBRATED.

Montgomery, Ala., Dec. 14.—Alabama was admitted to the Union eighty-four years ago today, and the anniversary was celebrated throughout the state. It is the first time the anniversary has been observed and today's celebration was due chiefly to the efforts of the Alabama Educational asssociation. In response to an appeal sent out by the association the schools throughout the state devoted today to the holding of commemorative exercises, the programs including the reading of the resolution of congress admitting Alabama into the federal union, summaries of the history, growth and development of the state and other exercises of an historical nature.

A NEW RECORDER.

Telephone Instrument Which Records the Message Sent.

New York, Dec. 14.—A special from London says the Daily Mail this morning reports the invention of a telephone which records the messages sent. The inventor is an English civil engineer, Ernest George Craven, who was once an assistant of Mr. Edison's.

Mr. Craven says he was impressed by the thought that the diaphragms which give out sound in the telephone and the phonograph were essentially similar, and that it ought therefore to be possible to get them to work in electrical union.

In both the phonograph and the telephone the essential feature is a diaphragm set in motion by the sound waves in the air. A phonograph has its motion mechanically impressed on a wax cylinder, which stores it up, and can again restore it to the air as sound.

When the process is reversed in the telephone the motion of the diaphragm is converted into electrical impulses sent over a wire and reconverted into similar movements of the dipahragm at the other end, which reproduces the sound.

The Daily Mail vouches for the satisfactory character of tests to which the new instrument, which is called the "electrograph," was put yesterday, when messages were sent over ordinary telephone wires 12 to 15 miles, but recognizes that certain mechanical details require to be improved.

OUTRAGE BY THE TURKS

Leishman Gets Report of the Alexandretta Incident.

Constantinople, Dec. 15.—The United States legation has received an exhaustive report of the recent incident at Alexandretta, fully convicting the local authorities and police of making an unwarranted attack on Consul Davis and of arbitrary interference with him in pursuit of his duties, and showing that although Attarian, the naturalized American, had been ten days in Alexandretta he was not molested until the attempted to embark for Egypt under the protection of the consul. The legation has transmitted the report to Washington and is awaiting instructions regarding the measures to be taken to obtain satisfaction.

LOST ON THE ICE.

Middleboro, Mass, Dec. 14.—After being blown more than half a mile over the surface of Lake Asdawampsett on a piece of ice which had broken away from the shore while the men were standing upon it, Harry Haskins, aged 22, and Frank Allen, aged 26, were rescued from their dangerous position yesterday by S. A. Lewis, who rowed out to them, only to lose their lives by drowning when the boat was swamped by a squall. Lewis clung to the craft and was rescued.

During the day the ice had been gradually breaking up under the force of a strong northwest wind, but it still held firmly near the shore. The young men ventured upon it and when they were a short distance from the shore the ice broke and they found themselves adrift upon a cake not more than ten feet long and three feet wide. The ice cake driven by the strong wind was soon a long distance out and rapidly moving towards the east of the lake.

Lewis, who was passing along the shore, secured a boat and rowing out took them off. The wind, which had increased in volume, was now blowing furiously. Suddenly a heavy squall struck the boat and before she could be righted the occupants fell into the water. Lewis managed to grasp one of the gunwales and hold on until rescued, but the others sank and did not reappear.

GIFT FOR ROCKEFELLER.

New York, Dec. 14.—The Bible class of the Fifth Avenue Baptist church, of which John D. Rockefeller, jr., is the leader, yesterday solved a momentous question. Mr. Rockefeller was not present when the class got to work yesterday. In the early fall the earnest workers in the class asked themselves what would be most appropriate as a Christmas gift for their leader. It was desired to present him with a token of their respect and admiration which would approach most closely to his dearest wish. Numerous articles were suggested, but it was seemingly beyond the power of any member to suggest anything that he did not already have. As idea after idea was turned down it finally dawned upon the class that when considering a gift for a Rockefeller it would be necessary to abandon the domain of the tangible and present him with an intangible gift. As one scholar is said to put it: "How can we choose a present for a man who already owns the earth?"

"Christmas is close at hand," the announcement was made, when Dr. Rufus P. Johnson, the pastor of the church, who was acting as leader in Mr. Rockefeller's absence, had finished his address. "All of us want to present our beloved leader with a suitable gift. After mature deliberation it has been decided that it shall be a new attendance record, and that shall take place next Sunday. We will get together and give him the largest attendance in the history of the class. It is a gift which he will appreciate more than any other we could bestow. Let each and every one of us determine to let nothing keep us away from the class next Sunday morning, and to see to it that those members of the class who are not here today will be advised of the shape our Christmas gift is to take, so they will be sure to be on hand."

"A new attendance record is the very thing he wants," every scholar agreed. The matter was settled.

SINGULAR EXPLOSIONS.

New York, Dec. 14.—Two mysterious explosions have puzzled the police and caused much excitement among the residents of upper Broadway. The first, which apparently occurred in the basement of the Broadway tabernacle, in course of erection, at Broadway and 56th street, occurred during the night and was audible for several blocks. Search of the premises, however, failed to reveal any damage or even the slightest trace of an explosion.

The second occurred about 4 hours later in a building in course of erection at Broadway and 43rd street. The concussion roused the residents of hotels and dwellings within a radius of several blocks. The explosion resulted in some slight damage to a hoisting engine and the breaking of a rear window in an adjacent hotel. The explosive, which is believed to have been a dynamite bomb, was apparently placed close to the engine and ignited, by means of a time fuse, a fragment of which was found near by.

Members of the new Housesmiths' Union No. 1 had been employed on both buildings and the police believe the explosions were the work of men in the union formerly controlled by Sam Parks.

Two one-pound sticks of dynamite with fulminating caps and fuses attached were found later today by laborers in the Acker, Merrill & Condit building, in process of construction at Forty-third street and Broadway.

A Cure for the Tobacco Habit

Mrs. M. Hall, 2008 Eleventh Street, Des Moines, Ia., has discovered a harmless remedy for the tobacco habit. Her husband was cured in ten days after using tobacco for over thirty years. All desire for its use gone. Can be filled by any druggist. Mrs. Hall will gladly send prescription free to anyone enclosing stamped envelope.

Singular Escape.

Boulder, Colo., Dec. 14.—William Miller, 17 years old, had a miraculous escape from death in the Tynon coal mine near Erie. He was at the bottom of the mine sitting on a keg of powder, smoking, and was dropping small grains of powder into the pipe and watching the sparks. Sparks from the pipe fell into the can of powder. An explosion followed and the young man was hurled some distance. The explosion set his clothes on fire and he was burned severely on the face, hands, arms and side. The boy may recover.

GIRL'S LONELY OUTING

Young Artist Camps for Three Months in the Rockies.

Chicago, Dec. 15.—"For nearly three months," said Miss Jeannette Jenkins, an artist, who has just returned from tenting in the Rocky mountains, "I lived by myself on the quiet mountain, watch-

JEANNETTE JENKINS

ing the stars, the sky, the flowers, the birds and the wild animals. I was glad to see occasional visitors during those months of all but solitude, although I never tired of the latter."

SCARLET FEVER GERM

Result of Research by Dr. Mallory, of Cleveland.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 15.—Dr. Frank Burr Mallory of the Harvard Medical school, will present tonight to the Boston Society of Medical Sciences important information as to the cause of scarlet fever, following a long and exhaustive investigation of the subject. The main point of his discovery is that the germ of the disease is of animal and not of vegetable origin, as has been held.

After a year's hard work Mr. Mallory is able to show that the infection in scarlet fever is by a protozoa and to trace the development of the disease through the successive stages of the animal's growth.

An important feature of the demonstration will be that Dr. Mallory will show the similarity of the scarlet fever protozoa to the organism which causes malaria. While the two are not identical, the scarlet fever protozoa in appearance suggests the "marguerite" formation of the malaria microbe.

Up to now it has been held in the medical world that the germ of scarlet fever was a vegetable organism. Dr. Mallory, as a pathologist, has apparently succeeded where the bactertologists have failed.

Owing to its especially infective character scarlet fever has been the subject of close study by physicians. It has been considered to arise from sources kindred to all diseases which are manifested in a rash, like measles. Heretofore scientists have proceeded upon the theory that a bacillus was the agent of infection.

Dr. Mallory is the first assistant visiting pathologist at the Boston city hospital, where he has had ample chances to study scarlet fever. He is a young man. He comes from Cleveland. He was graduated in 1886 from Harvard and from the medical school in 1900.

NOT TO BLAME FOR DANGER TO PRESIDENT

New York, Dec. 15.—Three police sergeants and two patrolmen, charged with negligence in permitting Edward D. Wing, deranged, but harmless, to gain access to President Roosevelt at the funeral of the President's uncle, James K. Gracie, were freed from blame by the report of Deputy Police Commissioner Ebstein, approved by Police Commissioner Greene today. The findings in the charges made against Police Captain Cottrell, in charge of police arrangements, have not been made public.

BUTLER'S EPIDEMIC.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 12.—Dr. Martin Friederich, head of the public health department of this city, has returned from Butler, Pa., where he made an investigation in connection with the typhoid fever epidemic in that city. As a result of his observations Dr. Friederich will ask the Cleveland chamber of commerce to promptly raise a liberal fund for the relief of the stricken city.

"The conditions existing have not been exaggerated in the least, and I believe the worst is still to come," said Dr. Friederich. "At least $100,000 will be needed." The doctor added, "and unless it is contributed by the public without delay, a frightful mortality will result."

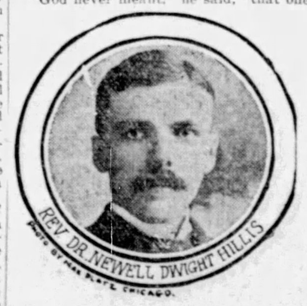
Dr. Friederich attributes the epidemic to contaminated water supplied to Butler.

HILLIS HITS AT TRUSTS

Declares Rockefeller Has No Right to Be So Rich.

Providence, R. I., Dec. 15.—The Rev. Newell Dwight Hillis, pastor of Henry Ward Beecher's old church in Brooklyn, in a lecture here before the Federation of Women's Clubs, hit vigorously at John D. Rockefeller and the trusts.

"God never meant," he said, "that one



man should control all of the oil and all of the steel of this country; that the man of ten talents should crush out the one talent man. And the ten talent men are throwing away their chances. God never meant that there should be great monopoly of those things which are necessary to the comfort of the human being. He never intended that one man should control oil and possess $100,000,000 while others had none."

LIKE A NOVEL READS THIS STORY

Paris, Dec. 15.—A dispatch to the Petit Parisien from Nice tells a story of the illegal acquisition by a priest of a fortune of $20,000,000 left by a Corsican sea captain named Costa. A man now employed as a railroad guard is believed to be the rightful heir to the money. The dispatch adds that the recent resignation of a high Italian official was caused by a desire to be free in order that he might endeavor to fathom the mystery.

CANADIANS FEEL SAFE

Dundonald Thinks Port Simpson Can Be Easily Guarded.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 15.—Lord Dundonald, commander-in-chief of the Canadian forces, has returned from Port Simpson and vicinity, where he went to look over the situation with respect to the report that the United States intended to fortify Sitkan and Kannaghunut Islands. He visited both islands and also Pearse and Wales Islands, which were both awarded to Canada, Kitamaat and Work Canals on which places the terminus for the trans-Canada railroad has been suggested.

Lord Dundonald declined to talk of his visit, but from others in the party it was learned that he regards Sitkan and Kannaghunut Islands as unable to dominate Port Simpson if fortified. Vessels pass close to these islands when entering Port Simpson, but Wales Island is so much higher that a fort there would make any fortifications on the United States islands untenable.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE

The Grain Markets.

Toledo, Dec. 15.—Close.—A heavy liquidation in May caused a weak feeling in wheat today and the market closed ⅝c to ¾c under yesterday. Trade was dull. Bradstreet's estimate of the world's visible supply showed an increase for the week of 1½ million bushels, against a decrease of 325,000 bushels last year. Private advices from the Northwest were to the effect that flour business was dull, and there was some talk of closing down a few Minneapolis mills unless business picked up. A good foreign business developed late in the session. Newyork reporting 34 loads taken at the seaboard. Reports of delayed harvest operations in Argentine because of rains were received, but the market declined steadily during th later hours of the session. All of the outside markets expressed an easier tone.

Wheat was easier on the opening this morning on easier Liverpool cables and large southwest receipts. Trade ruled quiet and dull during the morning, but light receipts all the northwest, coupled with reports of drouth in the southwest, gave the market a firmer tone and the opening loss was recovered. There was not a trace of precipitation anywhere on the map today. Temperatures were still wintry, but the mercury was some higher, especially in the north. Conditions were favorable for the movement, but the absence of snow in the southwest is somewhat of an unfavorable feature. The Illinois crop report issued today made the crop area 12 per cent less than last year or 1,540,000 acres. Condition north, 97; central, 94; southern, 91. It has been two years ago. Northwest wheat receipts today were 450 cars, against 683 a week ago and 549 a year ago. Southwest receipts today were extremely large, 416,-000 bushels, against 413,000 a week ago and 148,000 a year ago.

Primary market receipts today were large—1,010,000 bushels, against 1,219,000 a week ago, and 851,00 a year ago; shipments, 225,000, against 408,000 and 156,000. Clearances were large.

Corn was steady, but the weakness in wheat extended to corn, and the market on the close was unchanged to ¼c lower after a day of strength. A good export business developed, New York reporting 15 loads taken at the seaboard. The outside market were easier.

Corn opened firm and higher this morning, ¼c to ¼c up on steady cables and a bullish Illinois corn crop. The report makes the corn area for this state 7,379,000 acres, 30 per cent less than last year, but 10.4 above the ten-year average. The yield per acre is 35 bushels, against 39 last year, but even so this year's yield is placed at 258,265,000 bushels. The report says that while there is much soft corn the result is good in view of conditions. Trade was exceedingly quiet during the morning, but some buying caused fractional advances. Receipts here were large, but it is not grading as well as it might.

Primary receipt stoday were 476,000 bushels, against 565,000 a week ago, and 802,000 a year ago; shipments, 209,000, against 197,000 and 205,000.

Oats were influenced by the weakness in wheat, closing unchanged for December to ¼c lower for cash and May.

Oats opened steady and unchanged from yesterday at 37c for cash and 38c for May. Trade ruled dull during the morning, but a small trade in the May advanced the price a fraction during the afternoon. The market was influenced largely by the firm feeling in wheat.

Clover seed closed firm, 2½c over yesterday. Trade was quiet but light offerings, coupled with a moderate demand, was responsible for the advance.

Clover seed opened steady with a tendency to firmness, unchanged to 2½c over yesterday. Trade was exceedingly dull throughout the early hours and prices held steady. Receipts today were 400 bags, against 475 a year ago. There were no shipments.

TOLEDO.

	Dec. 15.				Dec. 14.
Wheat—	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.	Close.
Cash 85½	86¾	85	86	86¾
Dec 88¾	89¾	88	88	88¾
May 86¾	86¾	86¼	86¼	86¾
July 80	80	79½	79½	....
Corn—					
Cash 45½	....	....	45½	45½
Dec 45	45	44¾	44¾	44¾
May 44¼	44¼	43¾	43¾	44
Oats—					
Cash 37½	37½	37¼	37¼	37½
Dec 37	....	....	37	37
May 38	38¼	37¾	37¾	38
Clover Seed—					
Cash ...$6.80	$6.82½	$6.80	$6.82½	$6.80
Dec ... 6.80	6.82½	6.80	6.82½	6.80
Jan 6.85	6.85	6.85	6.85	6.82½
Feb 6.87½	6.90	6.87½	6.90	6.87½
March.. 6.92½	6.95	6.92½	6.95	6.92½

Rye—No. 2, 58c.

Timothy—Prime, $1.40.

Aisike—Prime, 96.68.

CHICAGO.

Wheat—					
Dec. 78⅞	79¼	77¾	78¼	79¼
May 81⅞	82	80⅝	81	81⅜
July 77	77	75¾	75⅞	77
Corn—					
Dec. 41⅞	42¼	41¼	41⅜	41⅜
May 43¼	43⅝	43¼	43⅜	43⅝
July 43⅜	43⅝	43¼	43¼	43¾
Oats—					
Dec. 35	35	34⅜	34⅞	35
May 36¾	37	36½	36⅝	36⅝
July 33⅞	33⅞	33⅝	33⅝	34

NEW YORK.

Wheat—					
Dec. 90¼	90¾	90¼	89¼	90½
May 85⅝	85⅞	84⅞	84⅝